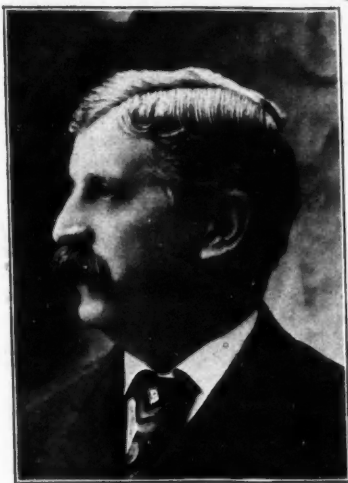


Vol. X.

No. 5.

# THE AMERICAN School Board Journal

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U.S. BUREAU OF EDUCATION



HON. CHARLES R. SKINNER,  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction,  
New York.

May, 1895.

WM. GEO. BRUCE,  
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what they avoid. For instance, the principal of the high school at Lockport, N. Y., died  
Sept. 29, 1891, and a new one had to be chosen. The Board of Education asked us to name  
the three or four best men for the place we knew, but to say nothing about it to the candi-  
dates. We named three and a committee went visiting. The first man on the whole did  
not seem to fit. The second was all right, but could not get released until the end of the year.  
The third man, whom we had named third OF they could get him, had in the meantime  
because at the time it did not seem likely OF written that circumstances had so far  
changed that he particularly desired such a place. Of this we informed the committee,  
still saying nothing to him. They saw him, liked him, inquired about him and liked the  
answers they got, and a telegram received Nov. 24 informed us that he was elected unani-  
mously. How else could they have secured a teacher with so few candidates? In 1891,  
Supt. Curtis of New Haven wrote to us to recommend a principal to the high school there.  
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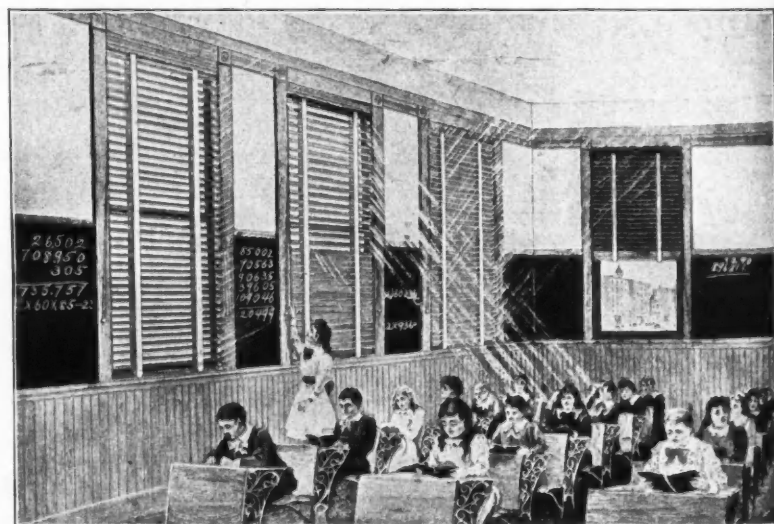
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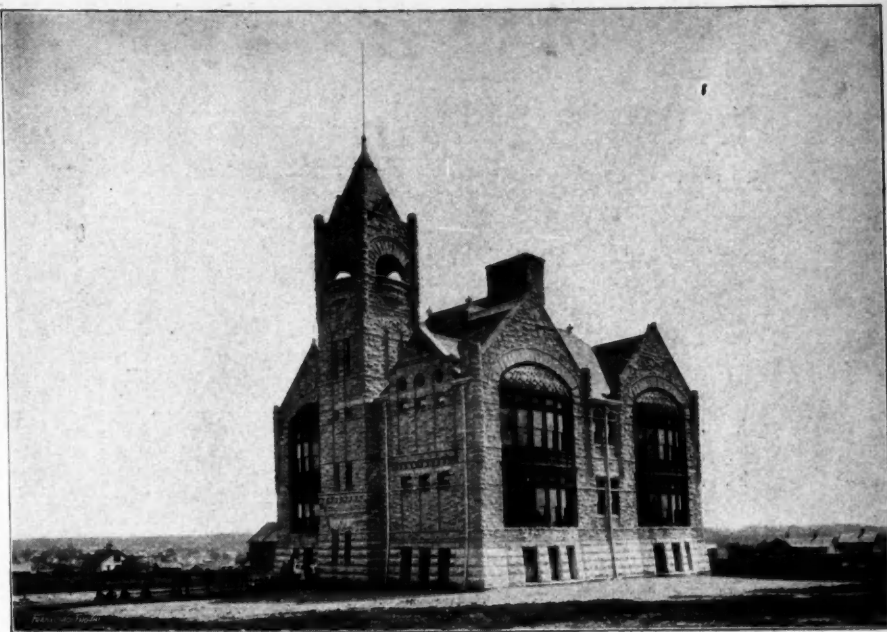
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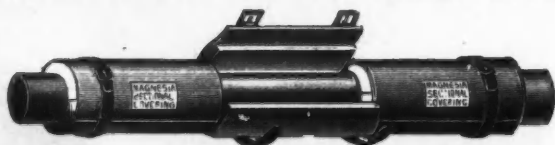
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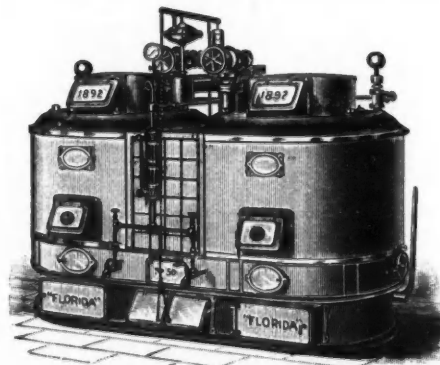
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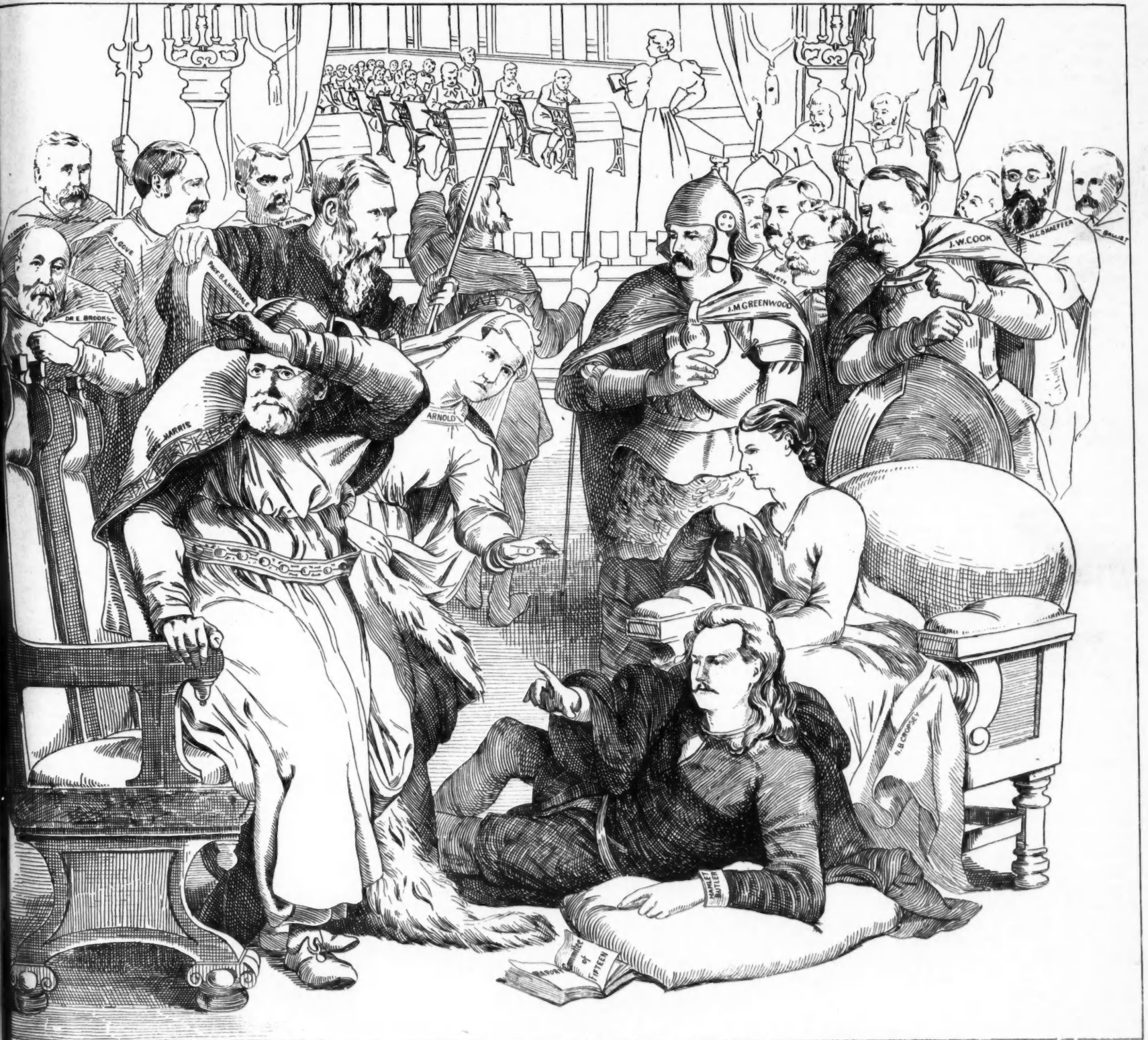
# THE AMERICAN School Board Journal

VOL. X.

MILWAUKEE, MAY, 1895.

No. 5.

## THE PLAY OF HAMLET "CORRELATED."



### AN EPISODE IN THE GREAT EDUCATIONAL CONTROVERSY.

HAMLET, PRINCE OF DENMARK (Butler):—Aye, good king, watch upon the stage the actors! School will be played, and the teacher too will correlate and co-ordinate into the of the child after the fashion of the famous report of the "Committee of Fifteen."

OPHELIA (Cropsey):—See! the King rises!

HAMLET (Butler):—Well may he rise! The report was drawn by a philosopher to be forced upon the child; would that the curriculum were drawn from the child to be forced the philosopher!

HAMLET—Act III, Scene II.

It was at the Cleveland meeting of the Department of Superintendents of the National Educational Association, attended by such prominent educators as Supt. O. T. Bright, Cook County, Ill.; Supt. Brooks, Philadelphia; B. A. Hinsdale, Ann Arbor, Mich.; J. M. Greenwood, Kansas City, Mo.; Nathan C. Schaeffer, State Supt., Pennsylvania; J. W. Cook, Normal, Ill.; Supt. Balliet, Springfield, Mass.; Supt. N. C. Dougherty, Peoria, Ill.; Supt.

Gilbert, St. Paul, Minn.; Miss Sarah Arnold, Minneapolis, Minn.; Miss N. C. Cropsey, Indianapolis, Ind.; Frank C. McMurray, Champaign, Ill.; Aaron Gove, Denver, Col.; and others, that Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, of the Columbian College, New York, opposed the report of the Committee of Fifteen on the Correlation of Studies, submitted by Professor Wm. T. Harris, U. S. Com'r of Education, in substantially the above epigrammatic phrase.



## LAW FOR SCHOOL BOARDS.

RECENT DECISIONS FOR AND AGAINST BOARDS  
OF EDUCATION.

## School and School Districts.

The law empowering the district board to make all contracts, purchases and payments necessary to carry out every vote of the district regarding the acquisition and maintenance of the district school house, does not authorize the board to contract debts in excess of the appropriation made for that purpose by the annual district meeting, which would thus run beyond the current school year. *School District No. 3, in Carbon County v. Western Tube Co., Wyo.*

The act making a general revision of the school law, and repealing "all general school laws of the state" repealed the act which provided that in all cases where the time for electing members of boards of education was fixed by virtue of any special charter, such election might be held at the time provided for the election of school directors under the general school law.—*Smith v. People, Ill.*

The power given to the boards of directors of district townships by acts to obtain at the expense of the district such highways for access to school-houses as they deem necessary, is not limited to cases where the school houses are not situated on any highway.—*Bogaard v. Independence District of Plain View, Ia.*

Acts constituting the board of commissioners of the Florence Graded Schools, provides that the county treasurer shall hold the constitutional and poll tax to which the said school district is entitled subject to warrant of the board of school commissioners of said school district. Rev. St. provides that all moneys disbursed by any county treasurer on account of school funds or poll tax shall be paid on orders of the boards of school trustees, countersigned by the county school commissioner, or "as otherwise directed in this chapter." *Held*, that the board of commissioners of the Florence Graded School district cannot maintain mandamus to compel the county school commissioner to draw his warrant in their favor on the county treasurer for a balance on the constitutional and poll tax in the hands of the treasurer, alleged to be held for the benefit of such district, such act being unnecessary.—*Ex parte Board Commissioners Florence Graded Schools, S. C., in re McDuffie, Idaho.*

Law provides that any incorporated "city or town including the territory annexed thereto for school purposes may be organized into and established as a single school district" in the manner thereafter provided. Other sections provide for an election which is controlled wholly by officers of the city or town, and provide that only in case of a majority vote shall "such city or town" be held to a single school district and that the district so formed shall be known by the name of the "city or town constituting the district," and that the territory contiguous to such town or city may be annexed thereto on certain conditions. *Held*, that an incorporated town which with territory beyond its corporate limits, previously formed a common school district, may organize itself into a single school district exclusive of such territory and that the phrase, "including the territory annexed thereto for school purposes," means such territory as thereafter may be annexed to such single district, under the act.—*Beavers v. State, Ark.*

Under the law providing that an incorporated city or town including the territory annexed thereto for school purposes may be organized into a single school district, and law, providing for the annexation of territory contiguous to such town or city, such territory cannot be annexed without the consent of its electors.—*Beavers v. State, Ark.*

## The Grading of Teachers.

Acts as amended provide that the board of examiners of teachers shall review and grade the examination papers, and that the county superintendent, in pursuance of such grading, shall mark

the result thereof on the papers. *Held*, that where a teacher was examined by the board, and graded by the county superintendent, according to which grading teacher was entitled to a license to teach for three years, and such license was issued to him, a member of such board and the superintendent could not afterwards regrade such papers so as to reduce his license to teach to two years, and at end of that time require him to be again examined.—*Hill v. Swinney, Miss.*

The fact that such teacher consented to a re-examination and re-grading of his papers, and that a member of such board required him to do so, as a condition on which he was permitted to teach at all, did not affect his rights under the license issued.—*Hill v. Swinney, Miss.*

## Question of School Taxation.

Law authorizes the electors of district townships to authorize the boards of directors of such townships to obtain at the township's expense highways necessary for proper access to school-houses. Code as supplemented authorizes the district township electors to vote a tax for obtaining such highways. Another code provides that independent directors "shall be governed by the laws enacted for district townships," so far as they are applicable. *Held*, that a board of directors of an independent district is authorized, on vote of the electors, to appropriate funds for highways for the better access to school-houses, and a tax may be properly levied therefor.—*Bogaard v. Independent Dist. of Plain View, Ia.*

In 1886 a school building was condemned and repaired out of private funds of trustees. This debt was unpaid in 1891 when the trustees ordered a tax to be levied for additional repairs. This order of condemnation was a verbal one by the superintendent. He reduced the order for the levy to writing, but it was not recorded in the trustees' books. In 1892 the trustees, doubting the validity of such order, and with intent to validate it, made another reciting the former one, and directing the same tax to be imposed collected as and for 1891. *Held*, that the tax was valid.—*Louisville & N. R. Co. v. Trustees School Dist., Ky.*

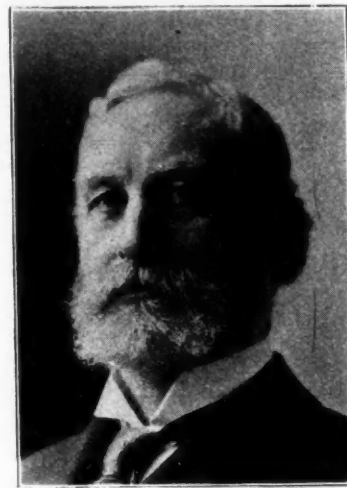
Where a school building is lawfully condemned, and is repaired out of private funds of trustees, property owners cannot avoid a tax afterwards lawfully imposed to pay for such repairs.—*Louisville & N. R. Co. v. School Dist., Ky.*

In an action against a county treasurer and the trustees for a school district, to enjoin a special tax levied by such district a complaint which alleges facts which, if true, show that such district never had any legal existence, states a cause of action.—*Green Mountain Stock Ranching Co., v. Savage, Mont.*

A bill to restrain the collection of a special school-district tax, which alleges that plaintiff, a corporation, did not have its place of business in the district where the tax was levied states a cause of action.—*Green Mountain Stock Ranching Co., v. Savage, Mont.*

Law provides that a board of controllers of the Allegheny school district shall deposit the school funds with such bank as they shall annually elect, for the highest rate of interest they can obtain on current balances. *Held*, that such board when offered  $2\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on balances by a responsible bank, could not deposit the funds in a bank offering no interest, but agreeing to loan the district money, if it should need to borrow it, to a certain amount, without interest.—*Gillford v. McMullen, Pa.*

While by the school law of 1890 the county treasurer was required to notify the county superintendent of schools of the amount of school funds in his hand "at the time fixed for making the apportionment," which was the first Monday in January, and thereafter quarterly, the taxes becoming delinquent on January 1st of each year, its amendment by March 31 providing for such certification "within twenty days after the day on which the taxes become delinquent each year," and quarterly thereafter, and changing the date of apportionment to within five days after the receipt of the quarterly



Hon. J. J. LITTLE,  
New Member Board of Education, New York City.

certificate of the county treasurer, is not a perpetual mandate upon the treasurer to make his certificate on January 1st, the time for the delinquency of taxes to begin being also changed to March 1st by the revenue law of that year.—*School Dist. No. 43 of Pierce County v. Fairchild, Wash.*

San Francisco, Cal. The last School Board dismissed a number of teachers through one of its committees. One of the teachers dismissed contested the matter in the courts and won. It was held by the judge that the full board should have acted in the matter. The teachers are therefore reinstated and will have all back salary due them.

A decision has just been rendered by the New York superintendent of public instruction will be of interest to school trustees throughout the state if not of other states. An appeal was made by tax-payers in the town of Marcy against the use of the school house by the Patrons of Husbandry. In his decision the superintendent holds that the use of school building is allowable—aside from regular school purposes—only by persons "assembling therein for the purpose of giving and receiving instruction in some branch of education or learning, or in the science or practice of music."

A temporary injunction restrains the principal of the public schools at Waverly, Pa., from using the bible in school exercises.

Cincinnati. The latest order to be promulgated is that flags must fly full mast on all schoolhouses on the following days: Jan. 1 (New Year's Day), Feb. 12 (Lincoln's Birthday), Feb. 22 (Washington's Birthday); April, last Thursday (Arbor Day), May 30 (Memorial Day), July 4 (Independence Day), September, first Monday (Labor Day); half mast, Garfield's death anniversary, November (last Thursday); Thanksgiving, and Dec. 25 (Christmas Day). In addition the teachers are expected to quiz the pupils the previous day on the occasion of the celebration, etc.



## A Wise Precaution.

Mother (to new servant returning with five children from the Kindergarten:) Why do you bring home a strange child?

Servant: Pardon me, madam, but I had forgotten whether you gave me four or five children to take to the Kindergarten. As a precaution I brought home one more.



# NEW SCHOOL LEGISLATION.

California. Bill to create and administer a Public School Teachers' Annuity and Retirement Fund in the several counties was passed.

Idaho. Unfortunately, the constitution provides that the county probate judge is ex-officio county superintendent of schools. The system is very bad. Two years ago the legislature passed a resolution submitting an amendment to the voters segregating the two offices and at the last election it was voted upon. Many voters overlooked the amendment and though a total of 6,236 voted for it and only 1,979 against, the amendment was declared lost because a majority of all voting had not voted in favor of it. This winter a joint resolution passed resubmitting the amendment to the people at the next election. A bill passed providing for the distribution of the moneys collected for licenses. It provides that fifty per cent. of all moneys paid for licenses shall be applied to and constitute a part of the school fund of the district in which said licenses are collected, forty per cent. to the general road fund of the county, in which said licenses are collected and ten per cent. shall be paid into the treasury. Several minor amendments were lost in the final rush of business in the closing hours of the session, among them a measure to amend the state text-book law.

The Indiana legislature passed a law which gives school boards the power to make levies of taxes for all purposes. Heretofore school boards were obliged to petition the city councils and the councils made the levy. Also passed a law regarding enumeration of school children, upon which the state fund is apportioned. Instead of enumerating the heads of families and the number of children, the enumerator has to enumerate the names of each child, age and sex, and get a signature of the head of the household that it is correct, all transients (that is, persons under the age of twenty one and over six that are only temporarily in the city) cannot be enumerated under this law.

Illinois. The committee on education ordered a favorable report on the bill prohibiting the board of education of Chicago from employing married women as teachers.

North Carolina. Legislature passed the bill to abolish county superintendents of public instruction and county boards of education. Superior Court clerks are to appoint county examiners to take the places of superintendents.

New York. The teachers pension bill for Brooklyn is a law.

North Dakota. Legislature ordained that teachers must be examined in civil government. This study must also be taught. The Free Text Book law authorizes the school board of any city, town or district to provide free text books pursuant to an election held for that purpose, called upon petition by a majority of the electors, if a majority of the voters so decide, and provides that the question shall, upon the above conditions, be submitted at the next annual school election.

Oregon. Introduced: Authorizing the state board of education to contract for school books at not more than 66 2-3 per cent. of the present contract price until such time as the state can publish its own books. Also appropriating \$50,000 for the publication of a series of text books for common schools, to be prepared under the direction of the state board of education; the printing contract to be let to the lowest bidder, preference being given to companies of this state; books must be sold at the actual cost of production, freight added. Also to allow women to become members of city boards of education, county superintendents of common schools, city superintendents, directors, clerks, boards of examiners, state board of education or other school officer.

Pennsylvania—Passed a bill prohibiting the wearing of any religious insignia or garb by teachers in the public schools.

Washington. The legislature passes the free school bill which appropriates \$50,000 as a starter



MR. MASUDA, University Secretary. MR. OBATA, University President. M. TISON, Law Professor.  
GARRETT DROPPERS, MR. FUKUZAWA, Founder of University.

## GRADUATING CLASS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKIO, JAPAN.

and provides for an enumeration of the school children in the state. Books are to be furnished at actual cost.

Wyoming. The following is a summary of new school legislation enacted:

1, An Act supplemental to an Act, entitled, "An Act providing for the issuance of refunding bonds in school districts," passed by the second State Legislature, being Chapter 10, Session Laws of 1893, and to provide for any surplus funds realized by the sale of bonds authorized by said Act or remaining in the funds provided by law for the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds refunded by authority of said Act. 2, Providing for the distribution, after January 1st, 1896, of the amount of money in the Common School Land Income Fund to the various Counties upon the basis of school attendance. 3, Prescribing the duties of County Superintendents of Schools, and for distribution of poll tax, amending and re-enacting Chapter 69 of the Session Laws of Wyoming for the year 1888. 4, Giving power to the Board of Trustees of any school district to establish and maintain the kindergarten system of instruction in the public schools, at which children between the ages of four and six years may receive such instruction. 5, Permitting school boards to establish Industrial or Manual Training schools.

## NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Erie Pa. The rule prohibiting employes to accept presents from the pupils was adopted.

Boston. An order was introduced by S. A. Wetmore asking the committee on rules and regulations to consider and report the expediency or inexpediency of making such changes in the rules as would prevent employes of the board from holding political or public offices in any other city or town. Passed.

Plainview, Minn. Pupils who absent themselves from school for five half days will not be admitted again without permission from the board.

Alexandria D. C. After June 30 non-resident teachers will not be employed by the board.

Duluth Minn. Board has instructed Supt. Denfeld that no more dancing will be allowed in the high school.

Dayton O. Board adopted rule that hereafter for all work to be done, and for all material and supplies to be furnished, the cost of which will amount to \$25, and will not exceed \$500, permission shall first be asked in writing to authorize the clerk to receive sealed bids for the same; said bids to be opened at meetings of the board, and be publicly

read, and the lowest bidder, if any, shall be accepted, the board reserving the right to reject any or all bids, and upon authority from this Board, the president and clerk shall contract for the same. All work to be done, all materials or supplies to be furnished, the cost of which will amount to \$500 or more, shall be advertised for in the same manner as provided for by law, provided, however, that in case of necessity this rule may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of all the members of this Board.

Lincoln, Neb. Board granted privilege of organizing anti-tobacco league in the schools.

San Francisco, Cal. Board resolved to make the summer vacation from June 7 to July 22, giving two terms of twenty-one weeks. They also decided to make the March vacation two weeks instead of one.

Lancaster, Pa. Former rule confining the salary of substitute teachers to that of the primary grade no matter in what grade the substitute was placed, amended so as to allow superintending committee discretionary power.

Maquoketa, Ia. Providing for publication of official proceedings of board in city newspapers, at an expense not to exceed \$10 per year for each paper.

Wheeling, W. V. "Whereas, the practice of teachers being candidates for prizes or other favors, electioneering for votes—having pupils gathering and bringing in votes, is detrimental to good discipline, interferes with regular school duties—a nuisance in the school and an annoyance to the teachers; therefore,

"Resolved, that we hereby condemn the practice and direct the Superintendent of schools to cause it to be discontinued." Adopted.

## THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

We present herewith an illustration of Prof. Droppers' graduating class of the Japanese Imperial University at Tokio, Japan. This class graduated last December. Prof. Garrett Droppers, a graduate of Harvard, began his educational labors in Japan several years ago. He is a native of Wisconsin.

Mr. Masuda is the Secretary of the University and Mr. Obata the president. Mr. Fukazawa, the former president, is now a popular editor, speaker, and one of the best known men in Japan. It is stated that he is a school board all by himself. Mr. Tison, the Law Professor, is also a graduate of Harvard.

The Japanese school system has been developing very rapidly during the past few years. The war has proven a check to some degree, but the progress will be a steady one nevertheless.



## TEXT-BOOK ADOPTIONS.

Malden, Mass. Potter's Geography.  
 Galena, Ill. Johnson's D. Appleton & Co., and the International Encyclopedia's, Dodd, Mead & Company.

Dover, N. H. International Encyclopedia, Dodd, Mead & Co.

Chelsea, Mass. Gates to Caesar.

Springfield, Mass. The committee on text-books recommended the adoption of Fiske's, Scudder's, Thompson's and Eggleston's United States histories as books of references, and also the "Pathfinder," a reference book for history study.

Pemaquid, Me. Potter's Geography.

Waterbury, Conn. Ginn & Co's. Vertical copy book adopted for trial in Bank street school.

Canton, Ill. Werner Co. readers and spellers.

Dixon, Ill. Montgomery's Leading Facts of American History.

Steubenville, O. Remsen's Chemistry.

Albany, N. Y. White and Thompson's system of Drawing.

Jackson, Ky. High School added to its library Chamber's New Encyclopedia (Lippincott's Edition,) Bruver's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable, Edwards's Words, Facts and Phrases, Dictionary of Quotations, and Great Truth, by Great Authors.

Apron, O. Laronad's History, Ready Reference and Topical Reading.

Newburyport, Mass. Fiske's Civil Government and Johnson's History.

Kalamazoo, Mich. Milne's High School Algebra.

Palmyra, Pa. Raub's Readers.

Quincy, Mass. Goodwin's Greek Grammar, and Frye's Primary Geography.

The school board of Whitemarsh Township, Montgomery County, Penn., purchased the New Chambers' Encyclopedia.

The Summer Normal School at Sardinia, Ohio, will use Sharpless & Philips's Natural Philosophy. Scranton, Pa. Byerly's Chauvenet's Geometry for High School.

Pittsburg, Pa. American system of Vertical penmanship as a supplementary writing book.

Olean, N. Y. Collar & Daniels' Latin prose composition, Allen & Greenough's Latin Grammar.

Framingham, Mass. Vertical writing will go into three Primary schools.

Hyde Park, Mass. Young's Astronomy.

Quincy, Ill. Frye's Primary Geography.

Lockport, N. Y. Morris's Historical Tales.

New York City. Board of education placed thirty-nine sets of the New Chambers's Encyclopedia in as many schools. They also purchased 116 Lippincott's Gazetteer of the World and 110 Lippincott's Biographical Dictionaries.

Peabody, Mass. Frye's Primary Geography, Higgins' U. S. History, Newells' Outlines in Botany Enebuske's Gymnastic Orders.

The Norwalk, O., board of education purchased a set of "Library of American Literature."

The Peabody, Mass., board supplied teachers with a copy of Embuske's Gymnastic day's orders and Newell's Outline of Botany.

Dell Rapids, S. D. The board placed Cooper's book on animals in the grammar departments.

The board of education of Fremont township have adopted Webster's International Dictionary.

The book contest in Vermont is waging hot. The adoptions will be determined June 7. There are 246 towns or townships and a number of independent districts which will in accordance with the new free text book make adoptions.

The State Board of Education of Indiana have decided to continue Ruskin's Selections as the basis of Literary work in the teachers' examination six months longer, after which Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice will be used.

Monticello, Ill. The board adopted Kelsey's Caesar and Cicero, and Scudder's Latin Reader, published by Allyn & Bacon.

Omaha, Neb. Metcalf's grammar was substituted for Harvey's; Metcalf's first lessons for De Garmo's, and Reed and Kellogg's for the other grades.

## TEXT BOOK NEWS.

A free text book bill was rejected by the Tennessee Legislature.

Chelsea, Mass. Committee discontinued vertical writing in the schools.

Dubuque, Ia. Rand, McNally & Co. of Chicago have made propositions for the introduction of their new geographies.

Pennsylvania. A text book commission has been agitated with a view to bringing about uniformity of text books.

Missouri. The legislature indefinitely postponed a bill to continue the present text book law.

Long Island City, N. J. Proposals to supply text books were received from Ginn & Co; Sheldon & Co; N. F. Merrill & Co; American Book Co; A. Lovell & Co. and Silver, Burdett Co.

Sacramento, Cal. The new State fourth reader is fully electrotyped, and ready for the press. The revised copy of the third reader is nearly all in the hands of the printer. Both the books will be ready for delivery by July the 1st. An edition of 50,000 each will be printed.

Missouri. The movement to inaugurate a state text book commission fell through.

"The Creamer Scientific Penmanship Co., of Washington C. H., Ohio, are revising their series Copy-books, and when completed will be the most complete system of Penmanship published today, and we would advise all that are interested to write them for particulars and prices.

Sheldon & Co. announce that they bring out New Franklin Arithmetics, Sheldon's Vertical Copy books, next June Sheldon's Standard copy books, next January Avery's School Physics, in June Shaw's New History of English and American Literature next January, and Patterson's Common School Speller in June.

Philadelphia. The \$10,000 Century Dictionary award has not yet been made.

Waterbury, Conn. Ginn & Co's vertical books have been put in on trial.

Newton, Mass. Young's Lessons in Astronomy.

New York. Isaac Pitman & Sons, of Shorthand fame, have removed from 33 Union Square to 152 Fifth avenue, corner Twentieth street. The new quarters are larger and more conveniently located.

Washington. Passed bill to make their own school books.

Somerville, Mass. The committee postponed the introduction of vertical writing.

Salt Lake City. Board decided that because "experiments at home and through tests in many parts of the country have demonstrated the plainness, business utility, hygienic advantages, and general superiority of the vertical system of handwriting over the old-slant style," the same be thoroughly investigated. Superintendent favors vertical writing.

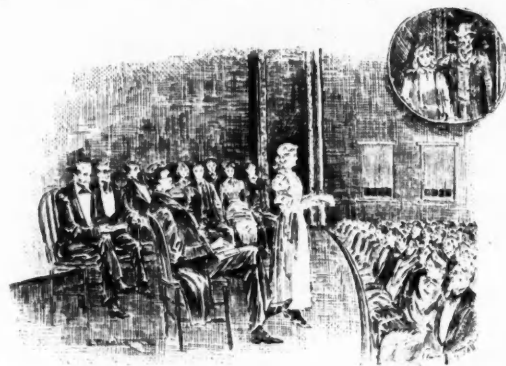
Pennsylvania. Law providing purchase of school books at lowest prices by school boards passed.

Wisconsin. Bill for state uniformity in text books has been indefinitely postponed.

The patriotic craze has struck school books. At Dixon, Ill., Barnes History was put out because it was thought it lacked in patriotism. At Bloomington a patriotic order claimed that its efforts were directed against certain publishers. At Muncie, Ind., there was an outbreak which promised to change every school history in the land. The scheme it is said has been in sub rosa existence in Indianapolis for some time. The intention, it is said, is to insert the words "treason" and "rebellion" in histories, and to word them so as to deal with the defunct Confederacy without gloves.

Brooklyn. The following propositions were received from Leach, Shewell & Sanborn, proposing to furnish Well's Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, without tables, at ninety-six cents; Well's Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, with tables, at \$1.04; Well's Essentials of Trigonometry, without tables, at seventy-five cents; Well's Essentials of Trigonometry, with tables, at ninety cents; Preston & Dodge's Private Life of the Romans, at eighty-

four cents. From the Werner Co., proposing to furnish the Encyclopedia Britannica, per set as follows: Cloth, \$49.50; half morocco, \$74.50; sheep, \$81.25. From D. C. Heath & Co.: Submitting circular containing information in relation to Johnson's Progressive Lessons in Needlework. Referred to committee on school books.



## COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

Newton, Ia. Board decided to have a prominent speaker instead of usual exercises.

Atlanta, Ga. Board decided against dress suits at commencement exercises.

Paterson, N. J. Board resolved to abolish commencement exercises.

Terre Haute, Ind. The essay feature at commencement exercises has been abolished.

Marshalltown, Ia. Board has reconsidered its action. Commencement exercises will be held. Class members will be allowed 10 tickets each and the balance will be sold.

White Hall, Ill. Commencement exercises will be held in the Opera House on the evening of May 8th, an admission fee of 25 cents being charged.

The graduating class of the St. Louis high school are in the dumps because the School Board refused to sanction a dance in connection with the coming commencement exercises.

Walker, Mo. Citizens banqueted the graduates and their friends to the number of 500.

Harrisburg, Pa. Board will withhold diplomas from all graduates charged with insubordination.

## TAKE SANTA FE TO N. E. 'A.

In our advertising columns will be found a brief announcement of the Santa Fe Route as the best line for teachers to take going to the National Educational Association meeting at Denver in July.

The trip in question will be a memorable one for Wisconsin teachers and their friends, many of whom have never seen the wonderful Rocky Mountain region. To all such the magnificent view of those mountains which is presented to travelers over the Santa Fe Route, for the 100 mile stretch between Pueblo and Denver, will prove a pleasant introduction to the wonders afterwards disclosed on closer acquaintance.

The Santa Fe service is as good as the best. Passengers can board their train at Dearborn Station, Chicago, and not get off until destination is reached. The equipment consists of Pullman Palace sleepers, free chair cars and dining cars, all vestibuled.

After the meeting is over, attractive side tours have been arranged as far away as the City of Mexico and Grand Canon of Colorado River; or to Las Vegas Hot Springs, in New Mexico, and Glenwood Springs, in Western Colorado; or to the many little summer resorts near Colorado Springs.

All this information, and much more, is contained in the circulars and books which the Santa Fe Passenger Department will be glad to furnish. Please apply to Mr. H. N. Butterfield, Passenger Agent, 355 Broadway, Milwaukee, Wis.

Those who go out by some other line should make it a point to return on the Santa Fe, thereby varying their route and seeing the most picturesque and fertile portions of Kansas, Missouri and Illinois.



# NEW SCHOOL HOUSES.

## RECENT DESIGNS IN SCHOOL HOUSE ARCHITECTURE.

There are, perhaps, more school buildings in contemplation and in course of erection throughout the United States than ever before. While the exterior designing is in every instance an improvement of the older buildings, the importance of simplicity and dignity is strenuously observed. Architects aim to give pleasing effects and elevate the taste. This is proper and should be encouraged.



New High School, Laporte, Ia.

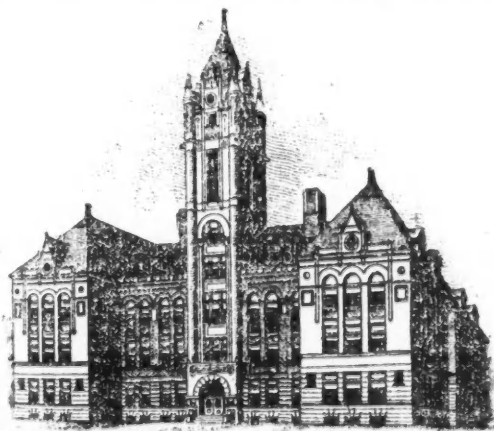
The new high school at Laporte, Ia., is an example of this tendency. The design is plain yet impressive with no particular style of architecture. The material used is brick with stone. Size of building 76 by 89 feet. It is divided into seven rooms of 25x30 feet, and one room of 25x34 feet,



New Grammar School, Alameda, Cal.

with a recitation room on second floor 13x14 feet; each room is provided with two wardrobes and teachers' closets. The ceilings of both floors are 12 feet, 4 inches in height. Total cost \$18,685. Heated by Smead system.

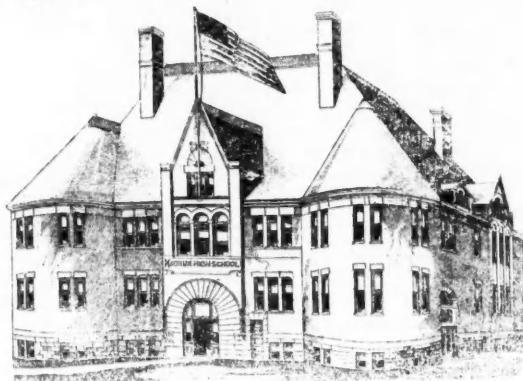
The new Alameda, Cal., school is a ten-room edifice and costs \$20,000. The architect, W. H.



New High School, St. Joseph, Mo.

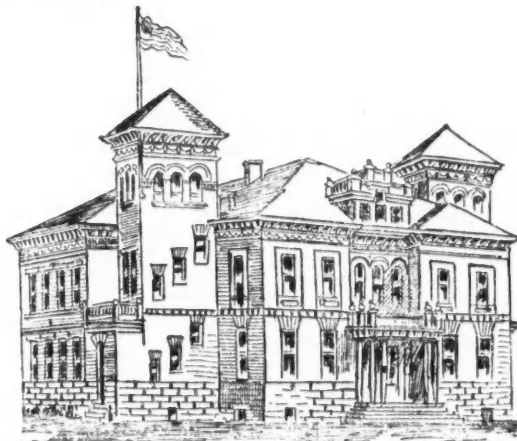
Armitage, of San Francisco, managed to get a great deal of room for the money. All modern improvements are embodied in the interior arrangement and altogether it must be considered a most satisfactory structure.

The new high school at St. Joseph, Mo., over which there has been so much wrangling in the press of that city is a most beautiful building. It is imposing and stately in architecture and of the Romanesque style. It will be 138 by 155 feet. The architect, E. J. Eckal, of St. Joseph, accomplished a good piece of work. The auditorium will seat 850 people. Altogether there will be 28 rooms, including gymnasium, laboratories, etc. Cost \$60,000.



New High School, Keokuk, Ia.

The new high school at Keokuk, Ia., is more unpretentious but yet neat in design and practical in interior arrangement. W. H. Miller, the architect, of Peoria, Ill., brought the cost of the building within \$33,000. Size 100 by 132 feet. The architecture is the Jacobian style. Pressed brick and Bedford stone are used. The school is equipped with artificial slate, furnished by W. A. Olmsted, of Chicago.



New High School, Willimantic, Conn.

Architect Chas. T. Beardsley, of Bridgeport, Conn., furnished Willimantic, Conn., with a handsome structure at \$30,000. It is 80 by 100 feet. The hall will seat 250 pupils. Recitation rooms, laboratories, etc., are supplied.



New High School, Moline, Ill.

Much has been said of the structure at Moline, Ill. It is one of the most substantial and commodious in Illinois. A Norman tower is one of the

features. St. Louis pressed brick and Portage sandstone are the materials used. The Sturtevant indirect heating system is used. Total cost of building, \$65,000.

John A. Walker, member of the Jersey City, N. J., Board of Education, was born in New York City of Scotch parents. He has twice been president of the Jersey City board. His firmness of character, splendid tact and judgment, have made him a valuable school official. As a business man he has been energetic and successful. As Vice President of the Dixon Graphite Pencil Co., a concern having a world-wide reputation, he has shown wonderful fidelity to his trust and steadiness of purpose. He entered the employ of this company as a youngster in 1867 and rose in all the departments to the position of vice president and general manager. The capacity and circumspection required to manage so large a concern successfully can well be imagined.



JOHN A. WALKER,  
Member Board of Education,  
Jersey City, N. J.

It is generally the busy man who finds time for other pursuits. Mr. Walker is the president of the Cosmo Club, devoted to literature and science, and also president of the Jersey City Orphan Asylum, thus lending his services to laudable purposes. It is men of that stamp that should find their way into school boards everywhere. Of Mr. Walker it can be said that his life is a useful one. That means much, and no higher tribute can be paid to any one.

Albert J. Thomas, secretary of the Lansfordborough, Pa., school board, fills a position for which he is well fitted. Bright, active and progressive, he complies with the duties of his position in a most efficient and satisfactory manner. It is said of Mr. Thomas that he is equal to the situation at all times. His district, or borough, has many Hungarians, and Secretary Thomas can deal with them in their own language. He does it and does it well. His personality is pleasing and he is popular in his own community. Courteous in manner, business, like in method, he holds the esteem and confidence of the board.



ALBERT J. THOMAS,  
Sec. Lansfordborough, Pa.,  
School Board.

## GOING TO EUROPE.

Spending the summer in Europe is becoming popular, now that it costs so little. Think of \$195 covering all expenses of a trip over six weeks; and, better still, think of living in students' quarters at Oxford or Cambridge, and enjoying English life as it really is in those grand old University towns! All this may be done if you join the Oxford and Cambridge Summer School Excursion, brief mention of which is made elsewhere in our columns. Delightful trips have been arranged to take in the most interesting points in Scotland and England, and side trips to Paris and Switzerland for those who wish to travel on the continent.

Mr. E. W. Miller, of the Englewood High school, Chicago; Prof. A. H. Dundon, of the New York City Normal school, and Mr. A. M. Kellogg, editor of the *New York School Journal*, are among those who expect to accompany the party.



## DUTIES OF SCHOOL BOARDS.

By W. G. RAY.

Continued from February issue.

All details of government, discipline and classification, are primarily within the province of the superintendent. Patrons have no right to expect, in the smaller towns at least, that members of the board shall be "educational experts" capable of judging of the absolute correctness of the courses of study. In such places few men will be found who have given sufficient time to a study of school classification, of child development, and of methods of teaching. In the main members are not chosen because they are "educational experts", and the patrons have no right to expect them to become such by the mere fact of an election to the school board. The superintendent is chosen, or should be, for his proficiency in such matters. It is his life work. In this business he is the expert and to his judgment a wise board will usually defer. The board can and should be good judges of teachers and of teaching ability, and patrons of the schools can reasonably expect them to be. They are to show their efficiency in these things by securing the best professional skill at their command, and by supplying the schools with the needed appliances for superior teaching. In the larger towns, doubtless, men can be found who are competent judges of many of the details of classification and of courses of study. But unless your "educational expert" is also a man of business ability, as a tax-payer I say give us a good business man every time in preference, one capable of judging of a manly, faithful superintendent, and let him do the work that belongs to him as a part of his profession.

Some say that a man who has served as city superintendent for a number of years makes a very poor member of the board. This, because he knows too much about the schools and meddles with things that are none of his business. If the statement is true, it is a reflection on that member's record as a teacher. For no one who has a proper appreciation of a teacher's duties, will ever infringe upon the teacher's rights even in an official capacity.

6: The board should be economical in expense, having a true regard for the interests of the tax-payer. It is a current saying that boards should attend to school business as they would to their own. This is only partially true. A member extravagant in private business should learn, on assuming the duties of a school officer, to curtail expense. The niggardly should know that schools should be equipped with the best material, the most modern apparatus, and with good libraries, one at least for each department. These may be provided gradually, all unnecessary expense curtailed and every avenue of useless extravagance effectually closed.

7: The duties of the secretary and of the various committees should be clearly defined so as to systematize and hasten business transactions. The secretary is the paid officer of the board, and we are not sure but the time is coming when he will be, even more than now, the business agent of the board as the superintendent is its supervising agent. There are, however, serious objections to this proposition which we need not discuss in this paper.

The practical side of a director's life presents some curious phases. Voters are often capricious. A popular wave sweeps through a community and has its effect on the schools. The man with an ax to grind is always living, healthy and active. Reform boards are chosen, building boards, boards to reduce wages, boards to lower the efficiency of the teaching force, boards to make the teaching force better. In such cases patrons have no right to expect just what they choose, no worse, no better, with the chances much in favor of the infinitely worse. When a member is chosen because he is a chronic kicker, the voters may expect a disrupted board, a house divided, and they will get it. More than one board has been chosen to degrade the educational forces in the school system of the community, to force some special study out of the course, to defeat the superintendent for reelection, to remove a teacher from the school because somebody has a daughter who wants her place, and for a thousand and one other petty reasons. It is interesting to note the ups and downs of such a district. I have in mind a community from which have gone at least two principals who now occupy positions as superintendents among the best in Iowa. Common business sense would have kept either of them in the schools of the district to which I refer for several years each, but wages were low, promotion was slow, honors were light, and neither of the board nor the patrons took the interest in the schools they deserved. Grade teachers were receiving less than \$40.00 a month. These men heard the trumpet-call to come up higher and they responded with an alacrity and joy that indicates that salary as well as love is a superintendent's enthusiasm for his work. Even yet nearly every year that district employs a new principal. Any intelligent citizen knows something is wrong in that community. A poor principal receives no support; a good one will not stay. And so year after year the efficiency of the schools is destroyed and their power for good weakened by constant changes in the supervising officer.

In another town wages were repeatedly reduced through capricious changes in the public sentiment, until the best teachers and the superintendent have sought better positions in other cities at wages worthy their honest efforts. And this condition will exist until in the slow changes which time works the better class of citizens rise in their righteous indignation and select officials to secure the best teachers instead of driving them to more progressive districts. A penurious board is more likely to be a greedy board, than is a broad-gauge, high-wage board, and the district that gives

penurious, close-fisted men control of the money-bag needs to closely watch the expense account to see that the treasury is not depleted for private gain. Such things ought not to exist, but the people who elect such a board have no right to complain at the inefficiency and degradation of the schools.

In the selection of the board the people get what they pay for. In the superintendent the board have a right to expect just such qualifications for the position as a man possesses whom they select. We say all honor to a board which retains true educators and gives them the means to build up a hardy, manly citizenship in the public schools.

The people may expect that the board selected by political parties because its members have a political pull, will use their position to reward party workers whether they be ward-healers, political thugs, or reputable members of society. And further, that the superintendent chosen by such a board will be either a political trimmer, playing between the leading politicians of both parties, if they are evenly balanced, or most intense partisan, using his position to advance party interests. Wherever boards are elected by political parties, the people have no right to expect aught but partisan incompetency, and an indifferent regard for the real interests of the school. And when as result they see their school system degraded, teachers occupying the best positions because they are relatives of leading politicians, or have influence with the board, they have no occasion to enter protest. They have what they paid for.

We have great confidence in the masses of the people to keep in the main right. Abuses may grow up which will require years to correct. But some time the reformer will come. In a burst of impassioned eloquence Patrick Henry exclaimed "Cesar had his Brutus and Charles the First his Cromwell". Philip Sydney's square men often got into triangular holes, his triangular men into round holes, and his round men into square holes. It not frequently happens that the misfit between the office of director and the man chosen to fill it is as marked, but in the main we believe that the people get about what they call for. Though often unwise and different in the choice of officials, the people may expect at least honesty, care and good judgment in the selection of teachers.

The public deserves better service in many details than it is now getting. The children have rights. It is often no fault of the boy that he fails to live in harmony with a fretful teacher who has outlived her usefulness in the school room, and who has made that fact apparent to every one but the selfish relative who retains her there by the aid of equally selfish compeers on the board. The people let boards too much alone. Not one-fifth of the citizens of a district visit the schools each year. Is it not apparent then, that they do not inform themselves as to the efficiency of their board? Again, does the average board interest itself sufficiently in the subject of ventilation, light, heat and comfort of school desks? Step into many school rooms to-day and you will find small children in the higher seats in the back of the room, with feet hanging in mid air because seats are too high, with empty seats just their fit in the front part of the room.

There is need of sanctified common sense in more than one person connected with our school interests. Patrons as a whole are too negligent of duty. No wonder then that they fail to demand in the board the exercise of an interest which they themselves do not exhibit. A brawling woman in the school room to be sure! Hasn't the pupil any rights? Is not the school room a community? Have not pupils a moral right to be heard when their legal rights are trampled upon and their sense and honor outraged? Why should mothers who are rearing their boys and girls in cultured homes, teaching them the sacredness of personal purity, be compelled to see the city superintendent a man addicted to vices which they wish their children to avoid? Are you not interested in this question? Do you want your superintendent to drink intoxicants, to use tobacco in any form, or to swear like a sailor? No wonder in some communities the mother trembles for her boy when she sees the superintendent or teacher publicly indulge these habits. Of what use is it to teach the effect of narcotics upon the system in such a school? These are questions which must appeal to every mother in Iowa, and ought to appeal to every school board as well.

But there is a bright side to these matters. The average morality of educators is high, and we are justly proud of it. No other association in the state can show a higher degree of culture, of honor, or of conscientious faithfulness to duty. With all the faults of our schools there is much to boast of and we love them still. No public money is spent as righteously as here. Progress is in the right direction. In our convention to-day we see great hope for the future. Instead of a "buttoned-up board" with local pride in their own schools and little knowledge of what others are doing, we see a broadening horizon, a helpful interchange of opinion, a healthy sentiment in favor of bringing to their official duties the combined wisdom of the most intelligent and progressive boards.

## TUITION FEES FIXED.

The following boards adjusted the tuition fees: Chicopee Falls, Mass. Night school tuition for non-residents \$10.00 per term; Broadalbin, N. J. All taxes paid by non-residents will be deducted from tuition fees; York, Pa., \$8.75 per term; Southington, Conn., \$8.00 per term; New Britain, Conn., \$2 to \$3 per term; Zanesville, O., high school \$25. per year.

Portland, Ore. In the matter of tuition of pupils—heretofore non-resident pupils or persons could come here, and by a statement that they were working for their board and alleging they were entitled to admittance—would gain free tuition, but such claims will be recognized no longer, as this section has been made to read—"Only indigent persons of school age whose parents are deceased."

## NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Ann Arbor, Mich. Attendance of students upon meetings of fraternities or secret societies at the High School, and active connection with such organizations is forbidden, and any student who persists in such attendance or connection for ten days after notice to cease the same, subjects himself thereby to suspension or forfeiture of diplomas of graduation or both.

Portland, Ore. "Successful teaching shall determine the teacher's eligibility for position in these schools; previous experience will be considered, but no definite term of such experience will be made an object in determining salary or employment."

Ansonia, Conn. The board of education has referred the matter of religious exercises in the schools to the Protestant and Catholic clergymen, agreeing to adopt any plan recommended by the unanimous vote of the clericals.

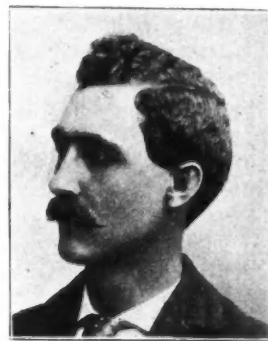
Keokuk, Ia. Prohibiting teachers from taking up or allowing others to take up collections for any purpose in any of the schools.

Covington, Ky. Rule requiring a two-thirds majority in all cases, affecting the appointing or removing of Superintendents and teachers amended making a simple majority all that is necessary. The legality of the amendment is questioned.

Quincy, Ill. A question of discipline has called the board's attention to the following rule: "The discipline in the schools shall be such as would be exercised by a kind and judicious parent in his family, always firm and vigilant, but prudent. The teachers shall endeavor on all proper occasions, to impress upon the minds of their pupils the principles of morality and virtue, a sacred regard for truth, love to God, love to man, sobriety, industry and frugality. But no teacher shall exercise any sectarian influence in the schools. Corporal punishment shall be avoided when good order can be secured by milder measures. It is strictly enjoined upon all teachers in the schools to avoid indiscreetness, harshness and severity in the discipline of their pupils; and the more difficult cases may be referred to the principal or to the superintendent for advice and direction. *Striking any pupil upon the hands or head is strictly forbidden.*"

SUPT. W. A. McCORD.

Iowa has many men who are thoroughly imbued with a most progressive spirit. Supt. W. A. McCord who inaugurated the latest School Board Convention in that state, he is constantly abreast with



W. A. McCORD,  
Supt. of Schools,  
Des Moines, Ia.

the times, and his hustling qualities are effective in good results. Born in Iowa, he was reared in a log school house and completed his education in the State University. Between the log school and the university McCord did something towards the conquest of nature like so many Westerners. He has spent sixteen years, however, as a teacher with continued success. As Superintendent of Polk County he has given the highest satisfaction.



AMONG BOARDS OF EDUCATION.

The Louisville, Ky., school board voted for the use of 44 school buildings to the G. A. R. during the national reunion. The law expressly states that the buildings can only be used for school purposes, but it is not thought that any legal complications will follow, as the citizens are willing.

Columbus, Ind. Board has dispensed with high school graduating exercises at the request of the graduates.

New Bedford, Mass. Board has decided to accept no flags from secret patriotic orders. It holds that these organizations are disturbers of the peace and harmony in a community.

Washington, D. C. The colored women want two representatives "of their kind" on the board.

Spokane, Wash. The married teacher question has been agitated for some time. The board however at its last meeting appointed a married woman as teacher.

Paterson, N. J. Board abolished high school commencement exercises. And now the graduates kick.

Long Island City, L. I. Board is dead-locked on award of school house contract.

Philadelphia, Pa. The 13th ward board is dead-locked on effecting organization.

Milwaukee. Board condemned following legislative bills: Prohibiting the placing of a saloon within 500 feet of a school house; providing that children under 6 years of age shall not be admitted into public schools; furnishing every school with a flag; providing a uniform system of text books with a state board on text books.

Lamoni, Ia. The members of the school board drew lots for long and short term.

A Wright County, Kan., school board says that Christmas is not a legal holiday, and forced the teacher to make up for that day.

New York. To a committee of gentlemen who waited on him and asked him to appoint a clergyman a member of the school board, Mayor Strong said that he did not intend to appoint any clergyman as school commissioner. He said that the other commissioners did not think that they could work harmoniously with any one who is a clergyman or a religious enthusiast no matter of what denomination, and that he is of like opinion.

Atlantic City, N. J. President S. R. Morse banqueting the members of the board.

San Francisco, Cal. The courts have decided that a committee of the board cannot legally remove a teacher. The whole board must act.

Omaha, Neb. The appointment of truant officers is being considered.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Board will inaugurate half-day sessions for first grade. Letters were read from the superintendent of schools at Knoxville, Nashville, Memphis and Birmingham. At Knoxville the system has been in vogue for fifteen years and is very strongly commended by the superintendent. The same is true of Memphis. At Nashville it is also the practice and is recommended under certain conditions at Birmingham.

Chicago. President A. S. Trude wants to resign in favor of D. R. Cameron the vice-president.

Syracuse, N. Y. Dr. Benedict read a paper on the "Organization of School Boards." He was of the opinion that politics should not enter into the question when the board was appointed, and that the Commissioners should give the sanitary condition of the various schools all the attention possible. "Let the charter be amended," said he, "so as to allow the Mayor power to appoint the members for terms of five years and from both political parties. At present there is altogether too much politics governing the schools. The politicians have too much to say. The affairs of the schools are governed by cunning. Let the board of Education and the Board of Health combine to make the schools healthful and fit for children to occupy." In the discussion of this paper which followed the reading of it, Dr. L. A. Saxer said that he did not

agree with Dr. Benedict in all that the latter had said. He was of the opinion that the School Board should be larger than suggested by Dr. Benedict. He also did not think that politics played such a large part in the governing of schools as alleged by the latter.

Omaha. Mr. Tukey sprung up a sensation at the board of education meeting by referring to a rule that no smoking should be allowed on the school premises and insisted that the rooms of the board were the premises of the schools. He then introduced a resolution to suppress the filthy habit, explaining that the resolution was merely to remind the board that such a rule existed. The report of the committee that the majority be obeyed and smoking be allowed to continue was adopted.

Marshalltown, Ia. Decided to adopt Roberts' Rules of Order as a parliamentary guide.

Bridgeport, Conn. In the recent school election, the Republicans permitted a secret patriotic order to dictate nominations, in consequence of which the Democratic ticket was elected.

Wilmington, O. The woman's suffrage law of the state is to be tested. C. C. Nichols and G. W. Brown, defeated candidates for the school board at Wilmington, will appeal to the state supreme court as to the constitutionality of the law allowing women to vote. They were beaten by Mrs. West and Mrs. Mills.

Cleveland, O. During a school house fire the children marched out quietly and quickly. The fire drill has, as the board deems, a thorough test.

Ansonia, Conn. The Board of Education having asked the clergymen of all denominations to unite in recommending a suitable form of prayer for opening the schools, all the Protestant and Catholic pastors joined in recommending the use of the Lord's Prayer as found in the sixth chapter of St. Matthew.

Atlanta, Ga. The board decided that at all future commencements of the Boys' High School those on the stage should not wear dress suits. Also that there shall be no banquet.

Minneapolis. Board held a "star chamber" session last month. It was thought that secret school board sessions had gone out of date.

Sioux City, Ia. In an address on School Boards, Miss Safford recently said: It seems perfectly plain that since Jews as well Christians, Unitarians as well as Presbyterians, Roman Catholics as well as Methodists, are taxed to support our public schools no theological teaching whatever should be permitted in these schools, and the question, "To what church do you belong?" should never be asked of any one desiring a place in them. The duty of school boards is to determine, if possible, a teacher's fitness for the work of a teacher; with his theological opinions they have nothing whatever to do."

Los Angeles, Cal. The board has ordered an investigation of Supt. Search's "individual method" of teaching. Much criticism, it is claimed, has been made and the board desires to thoroughly understand the method and its results,

Logansport, Ind. Owing to a disagreement between the school board of Clinton township and the parents school was not attended by a single scholar during the last two weeks of the term just concluded. The teacher, Miss Cora Walters, of this city, opened the building every day, and drew her pay the same as if the scholars had attended.

Philadelphia. The crowded condition has prompted the board to rent a school room in a carriage factory.

Omaha. Supt. Marble recommended a sufficient recess during the noon hour to permit the high school students to go home for dinner. The students now protest. It has been held by physicians in the East where the same question has come up that a warm dinner and a fresh air walk are best for the students' physical welfare.

Tacoma, Wash. The board has been called upon to investigate and adjust a feud between the teachers.

Postoria, O. The last meeting of the board was held at a private residence. The members were accompanied by their wives, and school matters were discussed over a fine supper. This is commendable.

New York. Board appointed Miss Susan E. Frazier, the first colored teacher.

Burlington, Ia. Wm. Lyon, a newly elected member of the board failed through an oversight to qualify in time and his seat has been declared vacant.

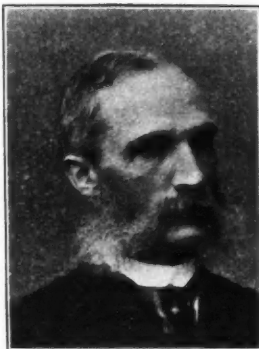
Youngstown, O. The board sometime ago refused to pay for a book case. The citizens thereupon made up a fund and paid for it. The receipt for same was handsomely framed and presented in a neat address to the board to be hung up in the board rooms. The board declined the gift.

Allentown, Pa. School board has served notices upon dealers to the effect that persons selling cigarettes to school children will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

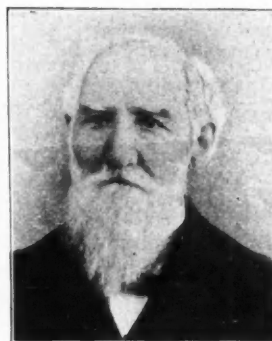
New York. One thousand policemen have been detailed to take the school census.

Baltimore. Requiring the superintendents of instruction to certify to the eligibility of teachers recommended for promotion, as well as their eligibility for election as teachers in the first instance.

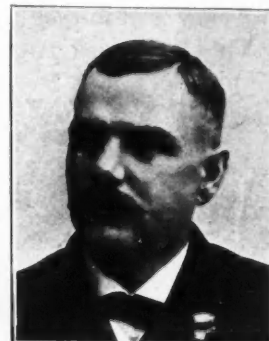
Wichita, Kans. Annie Mulvy, a teacher was arrested for cruelly whipping a child.



W. S. BURNS.



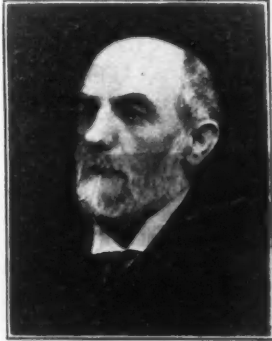
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CLARENCE WILLIS.



ABRAHAM BERKMAN.



C. F. KINGSLEY, Sec'y.



W. P. SEDGWICK.

BOARD OF EDUCATION, BATH, NEW YORK.



# THE AMERICAN School Board Journal

DEVOTED TO  
SCHOOL BOARDS, SCHOOL OFFICIALS, AND TEACHERS.

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We are publishing the only Journal devoted exclusively to School Boards and executive officers. We furnish information on the doings of School Board committees, including important executive actions, best methods of heating and ventilation, text-books, with prices and adoptions, school law decisions, models of school buildings, statistics upon salaries, publish the engravings of leading school men, etc.; briefly, we keep School Boards and Teachers abreast with the time.

## MARRIED WOMEN AS TEACHERS.

While this problem has come up periodically in school boards in different localities, it is doubtful whether the agitation over it has ever been greater than during the past few months. The introduction of bills in several legislatures prohibiting married women from teaching in the schools has prompted the press to take up the matter editorially and to throw their columns open to contributors.

Almost invariably have newspapers taken a stand against the measures. Gallantry has asserted itself in the defense of women as it always does, and in but few cases have the press comments treated the subject in an earnest and calm manner. Partisanship has been so closely interwoven with the legislative measures that a fair exposition of the problem has been out of the question.

Those who believe that a married woman should not teach urge some reasons that are worthy of consideration. They are in the main as follows:

That a married woman owes a duty to her family, and that it therefore demands her presence in her home and with her own children. That family cares detract from the interest in her school room labors.

That by holding a position as a teacher she will deprive some single person from means of support. That common avarice or a hankering for dress and finery rather than love for the work prompts her to teach.

That a married woman should rely only upon her husband for support. That there should be but one bread winner between husband and wife.

That there are times in a married woman's life when ordinary delicacy forbids her presence in the school room.

The opponents of these prohibitory measures hold that fitness and character alone should determine the employment of teachers, married or single.

That a mother is a teacher by natural law. That a married woman has the same rights as her single sister to earn her living.

That the seal of disfavor should not be stamped upon marriage.

That a prohibitory measure wreaks discrimination and hardships. That it lessens personal freedom and free competition. That it encourages old maidism.

That such legislation is special and specious.

So much for the arguments on both sides. In our judgment, the discretionary powers in this matter ought to be left to school boards. Legislative measures, at all events, are too sweeping, and will work hardships in rural districts where teachers are often times a scarcity—and where salaries are a mere pittance. Where single teachers can be obtained the preference should be given to them, when other conditions are equal.

Frequently a married woman holds a lucrative position in the public schools whose husband receives a salary great enough to maintain both in comparative comfort. The injustice of such double employment of husband and wife is felt by the young unmarried women who are shut out of the schools to give places to married women.

A married woman having an able bodied husband to provide for her, should strive to become what nature intended her to be, a companion to her husband, a mother to her children, and the queen of her home.

## THE VACCINATION QUESTION.

An appeal to the courts at St. Louis to compel the school board to admit a pupil not vaccinated was denied. It practically upholds the school board's right to enforce vaccination rules. The St. Louis Board was chartered in 1833, and the charter provides that it may make all rules proper for the government and management of the schools not inconsistent with the laws of the land. The Court then remarks:

The only question, therefore, is, whether the requirement of vaccination is a reasonable requirement to prevent transmission of a contagious disease. We are aware that different views exist among medical experts as to the merits of vaccination, but it cannot be gainsaid that a great majority recommend it as a meritorious preventive. That opinion is sufficiently prevalent in all civilized communities to have found recognition in the legislation of several states. The Massachusetts school law provides: "The School Committee shall not allow a child who has not been duly vaccinated to be admitted to, or connected with, the public schools." The statutes of Maine provide: "School committees shall exclude, if they deem it expedient, any person not vaccinated, although otherwise entitled to admission." In California it is provided that the school trustees shall exclude from the public schools any child or any person who has not been vaccinated, until such time when said child shall be successfully vaccinated. The Supreme Court of that State has decided that the law did not infringe upon the constitution, which guaranteed to every child of a certain age a free public education.

The Court remarked that in the nature of things it must rest with the boards of education to determine what regulations are needful for a safe and proper management

of the schools, and of the moral and physical health of the pupils intrusted to their care. If such regulations are not oppressive or arbitrary the court can not or should not interfere. It was held in Vermont that a pupil may be expelled from school on account of absence, although the absence was one which his parent and spiritual adviser deemed necessary so that he might attend religious exercises. In the famous case of Board of Education vs. Minor it was decided that whether a child should or should not receive religious instruction in the public schools rested, in the absence of constitutional mandates or restrictions, with the school trustees. In Iowa it was held that any rule which was not subversive of the rights of the children or parents, or was not in conflict with humanity, and which tends to advance the objects of the law in establishing public schools, must be considered reasonable and proper by the courts. Our own courts hold substantially the same view.

## EDUCATIONAL TYRANNY.

During the past month we have received a large number of letters from all parts of the country commenting upon the "Julius Cæsar Educationalized," which appeared in the last issue of the SCHOOL BOARD JOURNAL. While a number of the correspondents differ materially with the position taken, a still greater number agree that the tendency towards centralization of power in school affairs is undesirable. These views are held not only by school board officials but also by city superintendents. One of these, presiding over the school system of a large city, writes:

I wish to congratulate you on your "Julius Cæsar Educationalized," in the April number of the AMERICAN SCHOOL BOARD JOURNAL. It is to the point; hits the nail squarely on the head. That picture conveys volumes, and shows the spirit manifested in the Committee of Fifteen in its true light. I believe that if there can be one tyrant greater than another, it is the educational tyranny, and we have some of them in this country. If they could have their own way, the dear people would have but one privilege,—that of paying their taxes, and high taxes at that. They desire the Boards of Education to be mere servants, granting these Boards only one privilege,—that of electing these mighty educators to supreme control for life, with the power to employ teachers and run the educational machine without "let or hindrance." The people will be exceedingly unwise to let anything out of their own hands that deeply concerns them. When these mighty educators are immediately amenable to the people they will be more modest, and may be a little more condescending and sympathetic—will not be nearly so large in their own estimation, and will be more tractable.

We recognize the superintendent as the educational expert whose opinion should,



as a rule, guide the action of school boards in matters purely professional. But we have always held that it is unwise to the superintendent with arbitrary powers in the matter of teachers and text books. The school board is directly responsible to the people, and should therefore hold a veto power over the superintendent. If the school board is composed of honorable men the superintendent's prerogatives and powers will be duly recognized. He will have nothing to fear. If the board is unscrupulous and disposed to be unfair any arbitrary powers which he may possess will not appease matters. A proper division of responsibilities and duties is important, yet the quality of the board and the superintendent are of greater importance in the successful accomplishment of school work.

*The Register*, of Webb City, Mo., says:

Dr. W. P. Johnson, secretary of the Board of Education, has received a letter from Superintendent Snyder of the Muncie, Indiana, schools enquiring about the Webb City High School building and Architect Allen. Letters of inquiry are being received almost every day since the issue of the American School Board Journal containing an illustration of our building.

This is one of the many proofs that no educational journal is more widely read in the United States than the School Board Journal.

The board of education of Downer's Grove, Ill., voted that a set of the relief maps published by the Central School Supply House be purchased.



FRANK A. FAXON,  
Member Bd. of Education,  
Kansas City, Mo.



HON. J. L. NORMAN,  
Member Bd. of Education,  
Kansas City, Mo.

#### KANSAS CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The high standard of the Kansas City, Mo., schools are clearly traceable to two distinct facts, the quality and longevity of its school board. A high class of citizens and citizenship, and long service has built up in the course of many years a school system that is in many ways unrivalled. Carefully selected professional men and women are in immediate charge of the schools. A spirit of enthusiasm and progress, and good school houses are the result. A wise school board was primarily the cause.

The board is non-partisan. The terms of its members is six years. Only the best people are asked to serve. Elections are held biennially.

Mr. Yeager has been president of the board continually for thirteen years. His administration has been progressive. A man of tact and judgment, he has dealt fairly with the educational factors, the public and the school system.

Hon. J. V. C. Karnes has also served thirteen years. A gentleman of culture and refinement, he has contributed a large share to the educational advancement of his community.

J. Crawford James has served eleven years. Being a substantial and successful merchant, his judgment in all practical affairs has been exerted in the direction of public school interests.

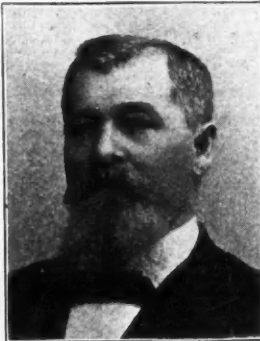
Joseph L. Norman has served since 1887. No one is better qualified to hold so exalted a position as



HON. J. V. C. KARNES,  
Vice-Pres. Bd. of Education,  
Kansas City, Mo.



E. F. SWINNEY,  
Treas. Board of Education,  
Kansas City, Mo.



HON. R. L. YEAGER,  
Pres. Board of Education,  
Kansas City, Mo.



W. E. BENSON,  
Sec'y Board of Education,  
Kansas City, Mo.



HIGH SCHOOL, KANSAS CITY, MO.

he, and no one can take a deeper interest in the performance of the required duties.

Frank A. Faxon is the junior member. He stands in the front rank of Kansas City's substantial business men. No better selection could have been made.

E. L. Martin has served as a member and officer of the board for twenty years. What a period of noble activity! His own community can never thank him for his services.

Then there is J. M. Greenwood—or, more proper, Supt. Greenwood, that educational war-horse of many battles. Who does not know him? Who does not admire his steadiness of purpose, his vigorous manner and his loyalty to the Kansas City schools?

And last but not least Secretary W. E. Benson—the man of facts and figures—who can answer one thousand questions in a minute, knows all resolutions of the board by heart, can tell name and salary of every teacher, and knows all the other ins and outs of the school system as well. Mr. Benson is a gentleman of splendid tact and ability and fills his post with skill and success.

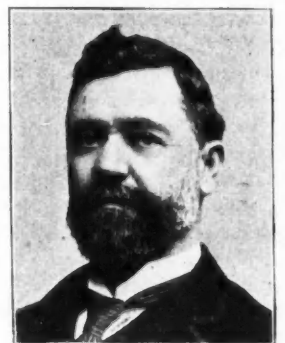
#### SCHOOL BOARDS IN CONVENTION.

The School Board Convention idea is finding a firm root in the State of Illinois, having held three such gatherings within the past six months. At the meeting of the Northern Illinois Teachers' Association, held at Joliet, April 27, a school board section was formed. Mr. G. L. Vance, a member of the Joliet Board of Education, called the school board convention and presided over the same. Mr. W. T. Boston, of Yorkville, acted as secretary.

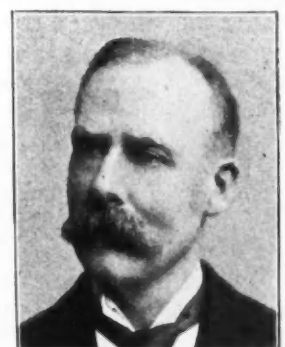
In opening the meeting, President Vance delivered an address on the importance of such gatherings and the duties and responsibilities of the board members towards the community.

A paper on "School Laws on Compulsory Attendance" by Hon.

*Continued on Page 13.*



HON. E. L. MARTIN,  
Member Bd. of Education,  
Kansas City, Mo.



HON. J. C. JAMES,  
Member Bd. of Education,  
Kansas City, Mo.



## EDUCATIONAL APPLIANCES.

THEIR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1875.

An examination of the development of school supplies in this country reveals some curious detail in the various devices which have from time to time been introduced, as the following will show.



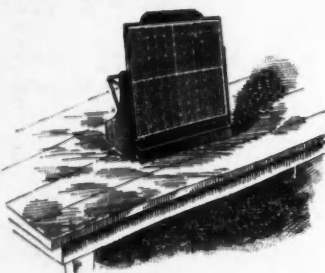
Letter Block Apparatus, 1875.

While it is impossible to note all the improvements made in this direction it is nevertheless interesting to point out some of the more important paraphernalia of this government.

Benjamin Butterworth, while commissioner of patents, speaks of this branch as follows: "Teaching, like everything else, came from the East, descending from the Hindoo Kosh with the migratory waves of population, which spread from those periods of time commencing so far back that history loses itself in tradition."



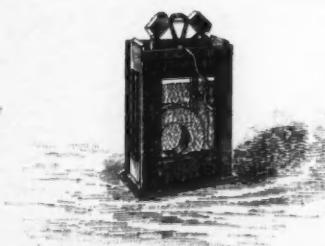
Blackboard, 1877.



Device for teaching History, 1878.

The Egyptians, even before the time of the Shepherd Kings, had regular school houses and school appliances, such as their advancement in civilization required. A celestial globe was taken from Egypt to Greece by the returning legions of Alexander the Great, made, possibly, by the men who constructed the pyramids of Cheops.

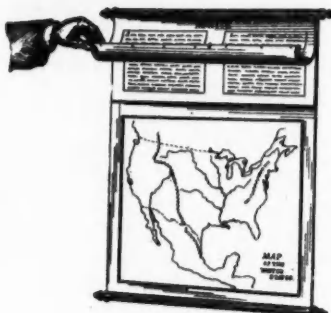
The Moors and Arabs were teaching geography from globes in their schools, at the time the Romans and the descendants of their conquering legions were holding that the earth was flat, and it is possible that Columbus obtained the ideas from their schools that caused him to venture forth westward in search of the "East Indies and Cathay" or he might have visited the school room at Rheims where Pope Sylvester II., in the year 1,000, A. D., taught



Showing Aeration of Water, 1879.

geography from a globe brought from the Moorish school at Cordova.

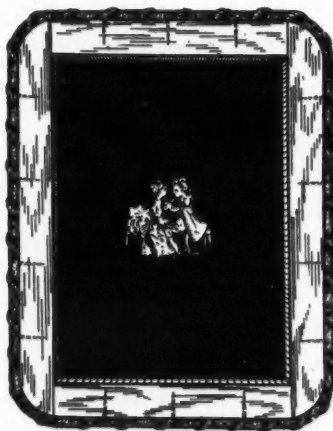
The primitive log cabin with dirt floor, wooden benches and common black-board has given way to the well constructed school house, built after the best rules of architectural science, well lighted and heated. The benches are gone, the black-board is a work of art, and covers one entire side of the school room, and the only other appliances of the old log schoolhouse.



Index Sheet Maps, 1880.

the master's formula and a bundle of willow or hickory or birch switches are nowhere to be seen, but in their place we find many modern appliances.

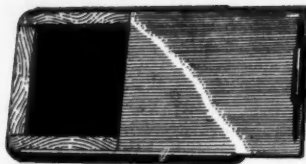
Opposite the principal is a school thermometer. A glance from teacher or scholar across the room will tell the temperature, whether it has risen or fallen from the proper degree. Upon the wall near it are raised maps showing the countries of the world, with their mountain ranges, etc. Instead of the old smooth ball with clumsily defined lines upon it, there stands a globe with each section of the world raised up out of the waters that surround it. Near it is another globe made of slate on which the student can draw with a slate pencil any portion of the earth's surface.



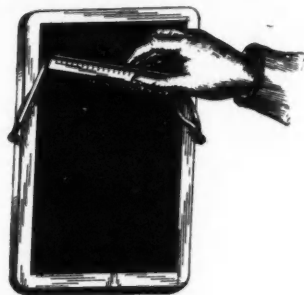
Slate Frame Muffler, 1883.

A Cabinet near by, with doors which fold in and are fitted with shelves containing specimens of various minerals, whilst the doors and shelves show varieties of tools. The walls of the building are covered with maps on which are raised figures of animals, birds, and fish, all in proportion.

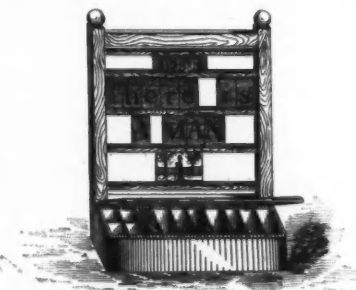
Another cabinet contains the figures and



Sliding Cover Slate Frame, 1880.



Drawing Slate Attachment, 1882.



Interchangeable Chart Frame, 1884.

demonstrations of mathematical problems, and still another, anatomical specimens.

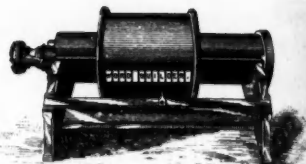


Finger Guide and Holder for Writing, 1884.

Modern globes are made of paper and plaster, neither of which is effected by changes of temperature also of gutta percha and paper pulp. Even the blind are provided for in these modern times with raised type and maps and globes with raised figures.

Up to and including 1880, upwards of 479 patents had been granted by the United States on educational appliances.

It is safe to add that many of these inventions have been useless or never went into general use, while others have taken, in perhaps a modified form, a permanent place in school house equipment.



Instrument for Spelling and Reading, 1884.

## HOW SCHOOL BOARDS ARE CREATED.

Buffalo, N. Y. The superintendent of the schools is elected by popular vote. The system has worked badly, but the present incumbent of the position is excellently qualified, and is well-supported by public sentiment. The question of the establishment of a Board in Buffalo with power to appoint a superintendent has been considered, but the people have been unwilling to give up their right of selection by popular vote. Mayor Jewett thinks that the true solution of the problem is not to be reached by either an elective school superintendent or an appointive School Board. The Mayor believes in a one-headed department for efficiency, and, therefore, does not think a school superintendent should be held accountable to a board of education, or, in other words, be their clerk.

Cleveland, O. A school director is elected by popular vote, and a School Board of seven members elected at large, are the chief features of the system in vogue.

St. Louis. The 28 wards of the city are divided into 14 districts, two wards in each district, and the Board of Education is composed of one member from each district, seven additional members being chosen at large.

Newark, N. J. The Board of Education is composed of two men from each ward, elected alternately, so that half the board retires each year. The Board of Education in Newark is a distinct and separate feature of municipal government, making its own laws and disbursing its own money. The general municipal government only participates in its work by providing the Board with funds.

Pittsburg. The School Board is a separate municipal organization, the council having nothing to do with it except to appropriate the money. There is a local board in each ward, which elects a delegate to the Central Board, which has charge of the high schools, studies in all schools, and salaries. The local boards look after the schools in their wards, appoint all teachers and ask the Central Board to do this or that work.

Rochester, N. Y. There is a school board composed of two members from each ward who serve for two years without pay. One-half the board is elected each year. The board appoints the superintendent.



## LIGHT AND SIGHT.

### PRACTICAL SCHOOL ROOM HYGIENE.

An interesting paper on the important subject of school sanitation was read by Dr. John Harrigan, the well-known member of the Brooklyn Board of Education, before an audience of teachers and school workers. The Doctor said in part:

"It has been said, and I think generally believed, that the most essential thing in a school is sufficient light. Certainly, light is to the occupants of the classroom a matter of the first importance; and even though a room be well adapted in all other respects, but insufficiently lighted, it should be condemned. In the older Brooklyn schools the main building is partitioned lengthwise through the center, so that the rooms can be lighted from only one side. However, the weight of authority favors lighting classrooms from one side, and that the light should come from the left of the pupils. It follows that in order to comply with the latter recommendation the pupils occupying the rooms on one side of the building should face to the rear, while those on the other side face to the front.

"Light for the classroom should be abundant but not dazzling. Excessive light contracts the pupil of the eye and lessens its power of vision.

"In many of our old school buildings the desks and the seats are faulty, and it is to be hoped they will be replaced as soon as possible by the modern adjustable kind, such as are being furnished at present, which can be adapted to change of grade, are not of the same size. In schools that are still supplied with the oldstyle furniture, small children may be assigned to seats that will not permit of their feet touching the floor while seated. This is wrong, and it should not be tolerated. Stooping, cramped and awkward positions are likely to be assumed when the desks and seats are not adapted to the pupils, particularly so while writing, ciphering or drawing.

"If the desk is too low it will cause a forward stoop; if too high, it will cause undue elevation of one shoulder. But postures of this kind, if they become habitual, may be productive of mischievous effects. Unfortunately, faulty positions are often assumed in writing, even though the desks and seats are of the most approved pattern and properly adjusted. When writing the pupil should face the desk squarely. The lid of the desk should be high enough to support the forearms, but not so high as to raise them: they should rest lightly on the desk, but should not sustain the weight of the body.

"The principal diseases incident to school life are myopia or nearsightedness, nervous and digestive disorders, spinal deformities, pulmonary phthisis and contagious diseases. Children who enter school with a tendency to myopia, or who are perhaps already nearsighted to a slight degree, will surely become worse by being obliged to read and study from small print with insufficient light, and likely some whose sight is good at the beginning become myopic from the same cause. Near-sighted children should be placed in the best light and nearest to the blackboards. The injurious effect of classroom work on the eyesight of school children is, I think, overrated. The classrooms, with an occasional exception, are well lighted, and the exercises on any one subject not continued for an undue length of time.

"During a child's school life the greatest mischief is done by what is called 'home work,' which is usually performed at night while seated at a table with a lamp immediately in front of the eyes; the evil effect of which is much worse than anything that obtains in the classroom. The cause of nervous disorders in children are numerous and, quite likely, school work contributes its share. When evidence of failure of strength, both bodily and mental, becomes apparent, the pupil's withdrawal from school should be recommended; this becomes urgent when the nervous disturbance

assumes the form of chorea, or St. Vitus' dance. A child suffering in this way will surely grow worse if allowed to continue in school, and his presence there may injuriously affect the other pupils.

"The recently advanced and generally accepted theory, that pulmonary tuberculosis, or consumption, is a contagious disease, imposes great responsibility on school officials. After having given the subject some consideration, I am convinced that when a diagnosis is once made, neither pupil nor teacher so afflicted should be permitted in the classroom. Teachers should entertain a thorough appreciation of the importance of preventing, as far as possible, the introduction and dissemination of contagious diseases in schools. The rules bearing on the subject should be strictly complied with."

## SPECIAL STUDIES.

Youngstown, O. The Board of Education talk of teaching elocution in the public school. Gentlemen, the stage now has more actors and actorines than it can support. So says a local journal.

Rochester, N. Y. Board will investigate the Del-sarte system.

Worcester, Mass. Special Committee has been appointed to promote art in school room decoration.

Macon, Ga., and Holyoke, Mass. Fire drills will be introduced in schools.

Stockton, Cal. Board adopted course of study in manual training.

Rochester, N. Y. The feasibility of a truant school is being considered.

New York. An effort is made to incorporate the Kindergarten system in public schools.

Baltimore. Board has been urged to adopt military training. No action.

New Orleans. Music will hereafter be taught in the public schools.

Binghamton, N. J. A truant school has been opened.

Oskaloosa, Ia. The result of the recent elections means to replace the study of music.

Rochester, N. Y. The effort to establish afternoon classes for poor girls who could not attend regular school sessions was a flat failure. All arrangements therefor were perfected, but no pupils appeared.

Pierre, S. D. The Prang system of drawing has been introduced in all the departments, including the high school.

Oskaloosa, Ia. Board voted to re-establish the teaching of vocal music in the public schools and made appropriation of \$700 therefor.

New Orleans, La. Rule providing for teaching of vocal music in public schools was adopted, to take effect next fall.

Marshalltown, Ia. The board received, upon application from the state, sufficient arms to equip the high school cadets.

The next annual meeting of the Manual Training Teachers' Association of America will be held at Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill., July 16, 17, 18; 1895.

Dixon, Ill. School board has secured an army officer and will have boys of the public schools drilled in military tactics.

New York. A boy's military company had to be protected by the police against the attack of little thugs.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Military training is now a permanent department.

Brooklyn. The board of education have passed a resolution unanimously protesting against the bill introduced in the Legislature appropriating \$100,000 for military training in the schools of the State.

Rochester, N. Y. Board has established a truant school.

Fairfax, Ia. In a paper Mr. Booth assailed military tactics as taught in school being detrimental to our government, and treated the city high

schools as schools rather for the classes than the masses.

Baltimore. The board has received a protest from the German turners against military training.

Akron, O. Board received a protest from labor unions against military training.

Shamokin, Pa. Board will equip a first class gymnasium.

## EDUCATIONAL HAPS AND MISHAPS.

Kansas City, Mo. P. W. Service, treasurer of school district 9, was arrested for shortage in accounts of \$4,696.52.

Bay City, Mich. The high school teachers have been arrayed in open rebellion against the Superintendent for tyrannical rules enforced.

Cincinnati. Principal Scheidemantle is to be investigated for brutality. He was exonerated.

Chicago. J. L. Ganton, a teacher, has become insane.

Homestead, Pa. The board has refused to reinstate Professor J. C. Kendall.

Cripple Creek, Col. Miss Lena Boss, teacher, was fined for inflicting excessive punishment.

Kenosha, Wis. One pupil shot another. The fathers of the boys are both school commissioners.

Rome, N. Y. Wm. Blake has been sued for inflicting injury upon a pupil.

Rochester, N. Y. Board confined truants in one of the upper floors of a school.

Sharpsville, Pa. Miss Tracy Loyd, a teacher, was summoned on a charge of punishing a child in a cruel manner. The jury found her not guilty but that she pay one third of the cost in the case. A subscription fund was gotten up by the citizens to reimburse her.

Florida. State Superintendent Sheats caused a sensation at the teachers' convention by stating that many teachers had passed their examination by fraud.

Springfield, Mo. Principal Hollister was arrested for assaulting a student.

Tyty, Ga. McAndrew Tison, a teacher, was sentenced to the chain gang for twelve months for breaking a pupil's jaw.

Madison, Wis. Jas. M. Allen, a teacher who killed a pupil several years ago, has been pardoned.

Lincoln, Ill. Annie M. Miller, a teacher, was burned to death, her clothes catching fire at an open grate.

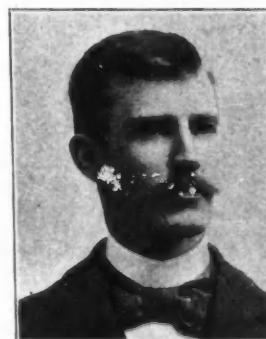
Washington, D. C. Stephen Ely, a teacher, was brutally assaulted by a "big brother."

Hawesville, Ky. Professor C. M. Bruner was burned to death in the forest fire near Victoria.

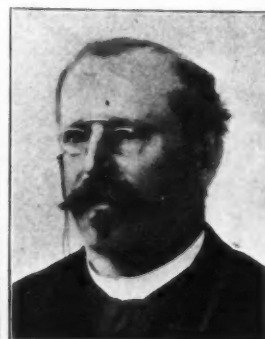
Tacoma, Wash. Misses Anna K. Wells, Eugene Armstrong and Maggie Farrelly, of Ellensburg, Wash., left here to seek their fortunes in the gold fields of Alaska. The young women, who have been school teachers, have in their outfit a small sail boat in which they will make the trip up to the Yukon River to Forty-mile Creek, a distance of over 1,200 miles.

Quincy, Ill. Gertrude Dewaree, a teacher, was fined \$3 for whipping a pupil.

Newark, N. J. Supt. Barringer reported to the board in favor of corporal punishment.



W. H. BURR.  
Sec'y. Board of Education,  
Grand Forks, N. D.



HENRY MAYER,  
Sec'y. Board of Education,  
Grand Island, Neb.



## SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT.

The Smith and White Manufacturing Co., of Holyoke, Mass., who are the great manufacturers of school stationery, have made a large addition to their plant. The rapid increase in their business demanded more room and better facilities. This will give them 34,000 square feet for their plant. E. N. White and J. L. Wyckoff are two energetic men who understand the needs of its school public and meet them in a most satisfactory manner.

The Detroit, Mich., board of education purchased 100 Lumsden's patent fumigating pails to be used in disinfecting the school buildings. The pail is so arranged that the water and sulphur used unite to form sulphurous acid, which is the ideal disinfectant.

Grand Rapids, Mich. Bought 100 silver leaf maples at \$100, for arbor day planting.

Cambridge, Mass. After September 1st, no more slates slate pencils will be used. Lead pencils ink and paper will be used.

St. Louis. Principals were instructed to furnish a list of repairs needed and photographs will be taken of all the schools at an estimated cost of \$150 to assist the members in understanding the necessity of the repairs.

Milwaukee. The matter of fire alarm boxes in the schools is likely to be defeated.

Joplin, Mo. Purchased large atlas of North Western Publishing Co. Mr. Sterling, agent.

Leavenworth, Kans. The question of telephones in the schools was tabled.

Dr. Clancy, of the Cambridge, Mass., school board, has succeeded in abolishing the use of slates sponges and slate pencils in the schools.

New air pumps and dynamos for schools and colleges have been constructed by Walmsley, Fuller Co., of Chicago.

Gardiner, Mo. A motion to place fire alarm boxes in the schools was tabled.

Pittsburg, Pa. The electric wiring for the new high school will exceed \$9,000.

Chenoa, Ill. Women were not allowed to vote on the school bond issue.

The women of Ohio do not seem to have very generally availed themselves of the privilege of voting for school officers. In Cleveland out of 65,000 women who were eligible only 6,000 voted. In Toledo they did not vote to any extent, though bad weather probably had something to do with it. But very few of the women candidates were elected.

Fond du Lac, Wis. Board purchased four Tellurian globes at \$42.50 a piece.

The McIntosh Battery & Optical Co., of Chicago, have issued a handsome illustrated catalogue on scientific instruments for high schools and colleges.

Chester, Pa. Board decided to adopt metallic ceilings for new school.

Springfield, Mass. The committee on hygiene recommends that the school room floors should be scrubbed at least four times a year, in vacation time and mopped at least once a month.

Berkeley, Cal. Board purchased a full set of relief maps from the Central School Supply Co., Chicago.

Watseka, Ill. Purchased a complete set of common sense charts for object teaching.



Scene in a Boston School Supply House.

Holbrook, Neb. Vandals broke into the school house at Holbrook, destroyed the furniture, tore up the books and painted the blackboard and woodwork a brilliant red.

St. Joseph, Mo. Board is considering the observance of Arbor Day by liberal tree planting.

The Granite Slate Co., of Union City, N. J., will remove its plant to Jamestown, N. J.

La Crosse, Wis. Contract awarded for telephone service at \$2 per month per phone.

The sample sheets of diplomas received from Sheppard & Burgett, Columbus, O., denote some wonderful progress in the diploma line. The beauty and dignity of the lettering, the style and arrangement of wording, denote extreme care and judgment in the preparation of these diplomas. Chief among them is the so-called Boxwell diploma. The plate must have been prepared at great expense; it is a gem of art, neat, tasteful, attractive, appropriate and convenient in size and proportion. It contains a most artistic heading, list of common school studies, and blanks for signatures of local board of education, county examiners, superintendent and teacher. It is the most complete Boxwell diploma in the market, and the price is very low for steel plate work of the highest grade.

The well known "Washington School Collections" of minerals, rocks or vertebrate animals can now be obtained from Edwin E. Howell, Washington, D. C., at from \$2 to \$3.50.

The best tribute a school board can extend to a deserving graduate, and one that will be one of life-long appreciation and pride to the student, is a handsome diploma. The Ames & Rollinson Co., 202 Broadway, N. Y., publish a series of these, suitable for all kinds of schools, in varied and beautiful designs, and at the most reasonable prices.

Joplin, Mo. Contract for diplomas went to Buford & Co., Indianapolis.

Chicago. Contract for blackboards awarded to Thomas Kane & Son.

New York. Contracts awarded to the Consolidated Lehigh Slate Co.

Winona, Minn. Contracts for blackboards were awarded to W. A. Olmsted of Chicago.

Berkeley, Cal. Telephones have been ordered into six of the school buildings at a cost of \$2.50 per month.

One of the necessary school supplies is a good writing fluid that will not corrode and which is reasonable in price. Write to the Diamond Ink Co., Milwaukee, Wis., for samples.

For water filters in the schools write to the Cream City Brass & Filter Co., Milwaukee, Wis.

A number of the new school buildings to be erected will be equipped with the Electric Program Clock system manufactured by Fred Frick, Waynesboro, Pa.

Long Island City, N. Y. The bidders were J. B. Wilson, Potter & Putnam, and R. Marsh & Co. No decision.

The Standard School Papers are noted for their uniformity in stock and accurate ruling. Ask your school supply houses for them. They are water marked to guard against cheap imitations.

Brooklyn. A proposition from the Boston School Supply Co., proposing to furnish Hughes' school room wall maps at \$3.75 per map was referred to the Committee on school books.

St. Paul, Minn. The board of education made a purchase of 200,000 blank books from various firms at various prices, for the use of the scholars during the coming year.

## SCHOOL FURNITURE.

Riverside, O. Contract awarded to School Furniture Co., Sidney, O.

Albany, N. Y. Accepted proposition of U. S. School Furniture Co. for desks.

Oconto, Wis. C. A. Bridgen supplied high school building with new desks.

Dayton, O. The Champion school desk, manufactured for many years by Broadrup & Co., passed into the hands of the Dayton School Furniture

Co. This company, while under the management of J. A. Marley, was forced to the wall owing to the business depression. The plant with all its patrons and rights was then sold to the Ohio Rake Co.

Boston, Mass. Board ordered that desks and chairs be adjusted only at the beginning of the school.

Louisville, Ky. Board contracted for Columbia Automatic school desks, manufactured by the Piqua School Furniture Co., through John M. Slavens, general southern agent.

Syracuse, N. Y. Board will re-advertise for bids.

New York. Contracts awarded to Andrews Manufacturing Co., Grand Rapids Seating Co., New Jersey School Church Furniture Co., Richmond School Furniture Co.

Boston. The Chandler Chair & Desk Co. has removed from 7 Temple Place to 25 Arch St., in order to ensure them larger and more commodious quarters.

La Rue, O. Purchased 300 opera chairs from Haney School Furniture Co. for new school hall.

Omaha, Neb. Awarded contract for 200 desks to A. H. Andrews & Co.

Potter & Putnam will hereafter act as the Eastern agents for the Haney School Furniture Co.

## HEATING AND VENTILATION.

La Crosse, Wis. Board will equip new school on the Sturtevant plan. This excludes other plans and has caused much criticism.

Newport, Ky. George White was awarded the contract by the School board to place patent sanitary closets in the Ringgold school.

C. A. Haslet, who was formerly with the Chicago Smead Warming and Ventilating Co., has now been for some time with the Smead & Wills Warming and Ventilating Co., of Philadelphia.

Erie, Pa. The heating systems represented before the committee were the Smead-Wills, to whom the committee had recommended the contract at \$2,500 per house; The E. M. Link Machinery Company's hot blast fan system with siphon; The Peck Williamson Company of Cincinnati, warm air furnace, gravity system of ventilation with flush closets; The Hess Warming and Ventilating Company of Chicago. The Buffalo Forge System filed a bid but as it was not accompanied by a certified check it was thrown out. Matter held in abeyance.

Rutland, Vt. The Buffalo Forge Co. has completed its contract in the new high school in a satisfactory manner.

Allegheny, Pa. Contract new second ward school awarded to Peck, Williamson Co.

Saginaw, Mich. Board has been petitioned by citizens to inaugurate smoke consumers in school houses.

Brooklyn, N. Y. A contract has been awarded to T. C. Northcott, of Elmira, to introduce the hot air system of heating in the school house on Arlington avenue.

The Blake & Williams Company, of New York City, got the contract for supplying the necessary steam heating apparatus for the same structure.

Detroit. The bidders for heat regulators were the Johnson Electric Service Co. and the Powers Regulator Co.

Galesburg, Ill. Johnson system of temperature regulation adopted.

The Ideal Warming & Ventilating Co. has been formed at Rockford, Ill., to engage in school house work.

The Johnson System of heat regulation has been contracted for the State Normal School, Salem, Mass.; Richmond Street School, Boston; Grammar School 43, Grammar School 58, Grammar School 88, New York City; Institute for Deaf and Dumb, Mount Avoy, Pa., and new Public School Philadelphia.

Erie, Pa. Adopted the Link hot blast system in one ten room building and the Smead mechanical system in another. The Smead gravity system has been used in the schools for some time.



# FINANCE AND BUILDING.

San Francisco. Board has appointed a school house architect.

Fremont, Nebr. Board will be obliged to pay nine per cent. on loans from banks.

Lima, O. The board is \$7,000 in debt.

Minnesota will order a school census at a cost not exceeding 3 cents per name.

Menominee, Falls, Wis. Plans of Rau & Kirsch, architects, Milwaukee, were reported favorably.

Allegheny, Pa. Board allowed a contractor who had made a mistake in figures, to withdraw his bid.

Boston. It has been ascertained that the per capita cost per pupil is as follows:—In the Normal, Latin and High Schools \$82.91; Grammar Schools \$28.98; Primary Schools \$19.73; Evening High and Elementary Schools \$10.59; Evening Drawing Schools \$26.09; Kindergartens \$25.40.

Cedar Rapids, Ia. Board issued \$18,000 bonds at 4½ per cent; Council Bluffs, Ia., \$40,000 at 4½ per cent.

Lebanon, Pa. Fixed school tax at 5½ mills.

St. Louis. Contractors protest against the \$5 fee for use of school house plans.

A recommendation was adopted by the Chicago Board of Education requiring contractors of buildings to make an affidavit that all sub-contractors have been paid before the contract will be finally closed with him.

St. Joseph, Mo. Board has ordered a school census at 2½ cents per name.

J. T. Hayne, recently elected clerk of the Portland, Ore., school board, has resigned because of his inability to furnish the required bond of \$150,000.

The Oakland, Cal., school board "compromises" with a contractor whom it has persistently accused of fraud. But the compromise was, perhaps, the most ludicrous compromise ever heard of. It agrees to pay the contractor in full for all work done, and then in addition, pays him to pull down his own faulty work and put up something different.

Several months ago the Locust Grove, Kans., school directors entered into a contract with a firm to build a new school house. The work was done satisfactorily and the contractors paid up. These men, however, failed to pay the persons from whom they secured the lumber and other materials and now the creditors of the contractors threaten to file a lien on the school house and compel the directors to settle amounts due. According to the Kansas law, the school district can be held for the amount due the men who furnished supplies for the building.

## A WELL EQUIPPED SCHOOL.

Those who have had anything to do with the construction or the supervision of a school building have experienced the difficulties in arranging floor service to meet requirements. Large classes and small classes want to be provided for. A recitation hall is much needed but class-rooms more so. Therefore in many cases a recitation hall or large room is dispensed with in the planning of a new school structure. The rolling partitions which have come in vogue in recent years, and which are now so perfect as to defy further improvement, permit the fullest use of every bit of floor space in a building. A hall which may be used for special occasions can readily be turned into a series of class-rooms. The Wilson rolling partitions, which operate vertically, are made in all the required widths,

durable and sound proof. They present a handsome appearance. The modern school building which aims at utility is thus equipped. Many school houses are now provided with them, and this year their introduction will be quite general.

The manufacturer, James G. Wilson, New York city, has given the subject considerable study during the past years, and his success in equipping public and private buildings has been pronounced.

## SCHOOL BOARDS IN CONVENTION.

Continued from page 9.

Jesse Baldwin of Oak Park, Illinois, who was unavoidably absent, was read by the chairman. In this it was held that the present Illinois law is inadequate, and that the same ought to be patterned after the Rhode Island compulsory school law. A letter from Hon. Thos. B. Sockwell, State Supt. of Rhode Island was quoted. He held that the elementary studies should be taught in the English language. "One tongue for one people."

The paper was discussed by Judge Marshall, president of the Joliet School Board. The Illinois compulsory law requires an attendance in a public or a private school for sixteen weeks. The penalty is from \$1 to \$20. The Judge recommended a fine of \$100 or confinement in jail or both. The laxity of the law made the truant officer's services useless.

"The mind of the growing child can be wounded, maimed, disfigured and poisoned and the only remedy is for the school board to sue for not to exceed Twenty Dollars (\$20.00), less than attorney's fees, if recovered, but it is written in the law of the State of Illinois, that "Whoever \* \* \* wounds, maims, disfigures or poisons "any domestic, animal \* \* \* shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary not less than one (1) or more than three (3) years, or fined not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) or both."

"These illustrations are sufficient to show the usual penalties for violated law, for wrong doing. A compulsory education law can not be sustained except upon the theory that there is a wrong to be corrected. Without a penalty, no law against public wrongs is effective."

Col. Parker spoke on the School Board Convention idea. It was the most important in connection with educational gatherings. It should have the hearty support of all school boards and teachers.

The Illinois compulsory law was framed to test the temper of the people. It was mild and aimed to avoid opposition on the part of private and parochial people.

Wm. S. Mack held that the law was good, but the people themselves were lax in demanding its enforcement. Mrs. Geo. B. Norton, Miss Genevieve Parker, Wm. G. Bruce and others expressed opinions.

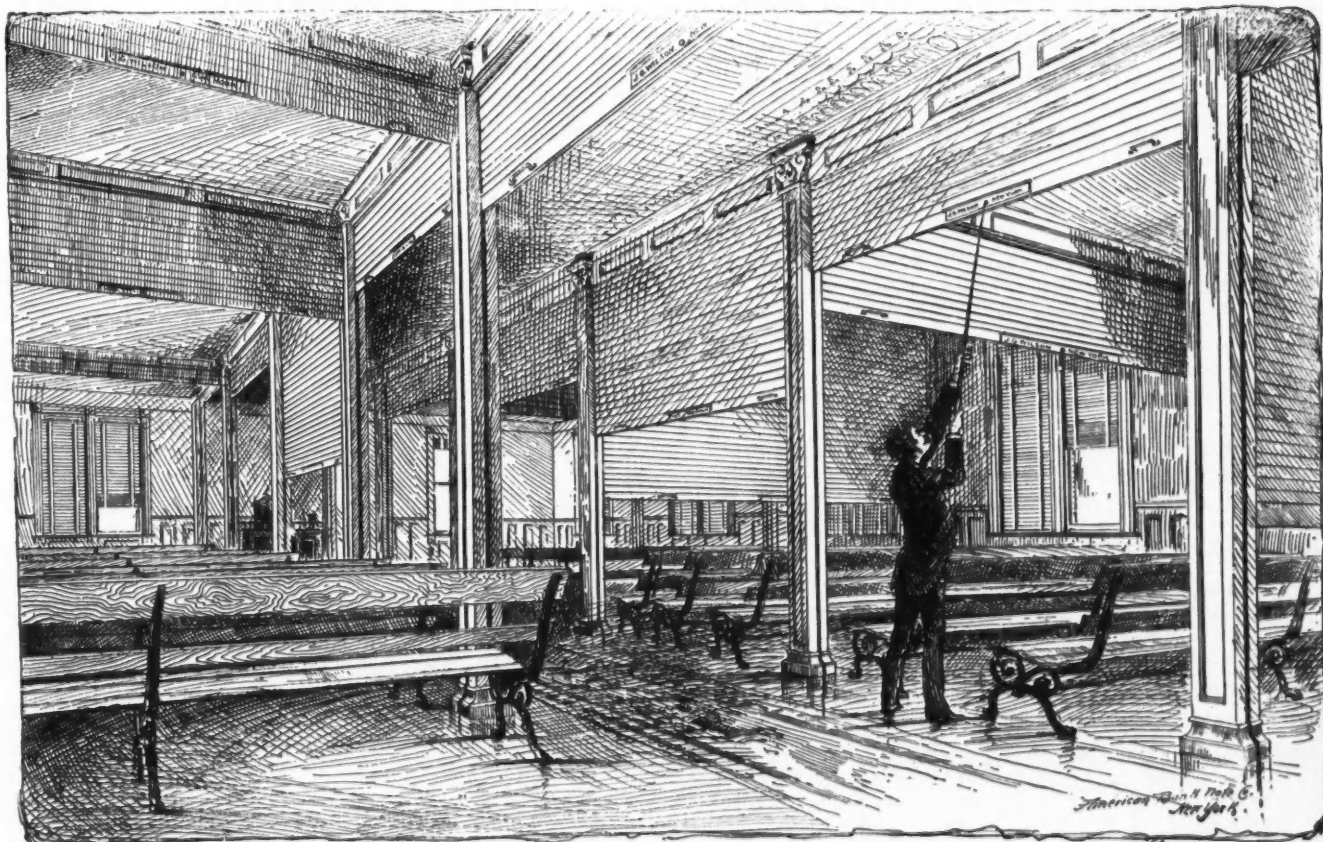
Dr. C. B. Kinyon read a paper on Hygiene and the Effects of Alcohol on the Human System.

When the question of the mode and time for text book adoptions came up, G. L. Vance held that the board as well as the superintendent should alike shoulder the responsibilities. Mr. Mack held that the superintendent's recommendation in the matter of text books should be followed. If the superintendent's advice can not be followed, he should be removed. Dr. Kinyon agreed with him.

Among those present were the following: Wm. S. Mack, W. E. Holmes, Supt. Freeman, Aurora; Mrs. L.B. Aldrich, G. L. Vance, Joliet; Fred G. Hill, Yorkville; Dr. C. B. Kinyon, Rock Island; Judge A. O. Marshall, Joliet; Genevieve Parker, Lockport; Mrs. Jennette R. Murray, Plainfield, Wm. Geo. Bruce, Milwaukee, Wis.; Mrs. Geo. B. Norton, Lockport; B. E. Kornmeyer, Dupage, Ill.; Sarah A. Green, Rock Island; S. O. Derbyshire, B. S. Lobdell, Chicago; A. K. Carmichael, Kankakee; Messrs. Ducker, Lively, McCullough, Royce, Vose and many others.

The Joliet Board of Education consists of Judge A. O. Marshall, president; James Lyons, vice-president; A. S. Phelps, Secretary; G. L. Vance, C. H. Carpenter, F. E. Marsh and Mrs. Kate Henderson.

Only Judge Marshall and Mr. Vance were present at the convention to represent the Joliet board. The rest managed to be busied elsewhere. The high school building in which the convention was held is a dilapidated structure, with cracked ceilings and blackened wainscoting and cheaply papered walls. The whole is a poor index of the thrift and intelligence which manifests itself everywhere among Joliet's people. And yet it seems to be entirely in keeping with the school board which apparently does not represent the highest and best citizenship within the limits of that thriving city. A conservatism which borders on sluggishness marks the personnel of the board. A few members are efficient and enthusiastic but their efforts cannot prevail if they must look to an indifferent public for support. That this indifference on the part of the public exists, is unaccountable. Yet it is strongly manifested by its board of education. If the schools are a reflex of the school board—the board in turn is a reflex of the public.



SCHOOL-ROOM FITTED WITH WILSON'S ROLLING PARTITIONS.





### WHEN GREEK MEETS GREEK.

Mr. X. represented the New York office of a publishing house whose headquarters were in Boston. A few years ago, during a state adoption outside of his territory, he was suddenly ordered to present himself at the home office in Boston. Thinking that perhaps his office was to be "Lexowed", or that some great calamity had befallen his house, he took the first train for the "Hub". Arriving there he was told that it was especially desirable to win the favor of an influential member of the State Board of Education where the adoption was to be made, but that their agent

in charge of the territory had made himself so obnoxious to this great personage that he refused to even grant him an interview, much less consider his books. The junior member of the firm, and also the senior member, had made attempts to conciliate the gentleman, but had met with a chill reception, and were obliged to acknowledge that they could do nothing with him.

"Now", said the head of the firm, turning to their New York agent, "our only hope lies in you. This man is the biggest crank in the state, and from our correspondence with you during the past year, we believe you to be the biggest crank in New York City. Go and see what you can do." "When crank meets a crank then comes the tug of war", muttered the agent to himself, but he accepted the commission and started for the scene of the fray. The official duties of the Great Personage took him from place to place, and Mr. X. spent several days wandering over the state trying to locate his prey. At length, one night, about eleven o'clock, with the thermometer below zero, he found him in a little country hotel, two miles away from the railroad. From the group of loafers around the glowing stove in the barroom, he singled out the landlord and asked if he could see the gentleman he was after. "No, sir", he replied, "I wouldn't dare to disturb him at this time of night. He is upstairs in his room writing up matters connected with the state affairs, and he left orders that he would see nobody,—nobody, sir,—and if you are acquainted with the gentleman you'll know it is more healthy and agreeable all around not to disobey his commands." Mr. X. then asked if he could see him in the morning. "Yes" was the answer, "if you get up at four o'clock. The gentleman, since he has been here, has never retired before one or two o'clock and is always up at four. When he sleeps, I don't know, but I do know that it is all a man's life is worth to disturb him when he is engaged." But Mr. X. was desperate. Not only his standing as

an agent, but, more important yet, his reputation as a crank was at stake, and he resolved upon a grand *coup d'état*. "Well", he said, "my business won't wait, and I'm going to see that man to-night, though it may mean battle, murder and sudden death to me. Show me up to his room." "With many shakes of the head and much inward misgiving, the landlord

showed him the stairway and pointed out the room, incidentally remarking that an accident policy might be appreciated by his family in case anything happened. Paying no attention to this, X. bounded up the stairs and gave a thundering rap on the door. "Who's there?" yelled a voice inside. "A crank from New York", replied the agent. The door slowly opened with the remark, "well you must be a crank. But what do you want with me at eleven o'clock at night?" "I am a school-book agent", began Mr. X, "and—" "Blank—blank—blank school book agents", interrupted the gentleman. "I know that", Mr. X. replied, "but I have another claim to your consideration. I understand that you are the biggest crank in this state. Now I happen to be the biggest crank in New York, and I thought perhaps you would like to meet me. I don't care whether you take my books or not, but I'm coming in to have a talk with you." This was too much for the champion crank of the state. He was met and vanquished on his own fighting ground. He invited Mr. X. in, talked pleasantly for half an hour, gave him his word of honor that his books should be adopted, and then put on his overcoat and saw him to the depot in time to catch the midnight train to New York. And furthermore, when the time of adoption came round, the promises were faithfully fulfilled.

### AMONG AGENTS AND PUBLISHERS.

Miss Lillie M. Golden looks after D. C. Heath & Co's music system in Kansas.

Alfred Horn, the Western manager of the educational department of D. Appleton & Co., Chicago, mourns the death of his mother.

F. J. Albrecht, the genial secretary the Central School Supply House, was recently married to Miss Maud Snyder, a very estimable young lady of Chicago. The young couple spent the honeymoon in Florida and then Mr. Albrecht turned his attention to business again. He rapidly learned that the Southern school systems were not supplied with the famous Relief Maps by his company and set about to supply them. He visited the various cities in Florida, Georgia and Alabama, and in a few weeks time had secured orders for over one hundred sets. The maps are meeting with popular and deserved favor in all parts of the country.



F. J. ALBRECHT.

The Western branch of the Prang Educational Co., located at Chicago, has been considerably enlarged beginning with the present month. The company will occupy the entire floor of their present quarters, which heretofore was divided among several publishers.

Robert Foresman, the Western manager of Silver, Burdett & Co., who spent some months in Europe landed in this country again. He spent a greater portion of his time in Italy where a number of his friends reside. Mr. Foresman, who was ailing somewhat last fall before his departure, finds himself in excellent health and spirits and is ready to go to work again with his old time vigor. His many friends and the school public will be glad to welcome him back



Foresman landing in New York.



Professor:—"But I wanted something in ancient history."

New Clerk:—"My dear sir, we have nothing ancient. Our books are all new. You might inquire in a second-hand store."

E. H. Butler & Co. are now represented by John C. Ellis, 211 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, and J. J. Lyons, 15 Bromfield St., Boston.

J. A. Thomas resigned his position as principal of the Keswick, Ia., schools to travel for a publishing house.

W. A. Johnson is now representing the International Encyclopedia in Kansas.

The Philadelphia office has not been removed to 1330 Arch Street as has been stated. John A. M. Passmore has opened an office at 1330 Arch Street, so as to be near the station, the better to receive his friends from the State of Maryland and a part of Pennsylvania, which is his field as a representative of the American Book Company. The Philadelphia office of the American Book Company has been at 1024 Arch Street since the organization of the Company and continues there, under the supervision of William Linn, who has charge of the agency matters in Philadelphia and Camden for the Company and Mr. A. P. Flint is also located at the same place as a representative of the American Book Company and has charge of the agency business for a part of Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey, the state of Delaware and the City of Washington. The offices of the Company at 1024 Arch Street are large and spacious and all of the friends of the American Book Co. who visit them are made welcome.



WM. LINN.  
American Book Company, Philadelphia, Pa.



Traveled all over the State.



# THE PROFESSOR'S MOTHER-IN-LAW.

Prof. Butler loved his young wife to distraction, and his domestic horizon would have been an extremely bright one had it not been for the existence of a mother-in-law. A mother-in-law who was always suspicious of the professor's faithfulness, and who unconsciously sowed the seeds of jealousy.

During the past few days the professor had exerted himself in finding a suitable present for Jennie as a birth-day gift. He conceived an idea as to what it should be, and instructed a merchant to communicate with a certain distant manufacturer to procure the desired article.

Next day at noon a messenger boy rang the door bell, and after whispering into the ear of Prof. Butler, departed in great haste.

The messenger had scarcely departed when the mother-in-law breathlessly embraced the young wife. "Unhappy child," she cried, "he is deceiving you in the most shameful manner. I overheard him mention a Rose—somebody, to the messenger who arrive by express to-night. Oh, that horrid man; evidently some former sweetheart. You poor girl, how I do pity you!"

The young wife was horror stricken with the news she received.

When, after school hours, the young professor arrived home in high spirits, he met the mother-in-law pale with anger, and Jennie exhausted, in misery and tears.



"What in all the world has happened?" he exclaimed. No satisfactory answer was given, until the female tongues loosened. Then a perfect storm flew about his scholarly head.

"Disgrace upon you, you hateful deceiver," exclaimed Jennie.

"You shameful pedagogue" continued the mother-in-law, "oh, we know it all. Do not excuse yourself."

"But" he began.

"Silence," cried the mother-in-law. "I overheard it with my own ears what was said when you received the message. By this time you have undoubtedly met Rose at the train—and—"

Here the professor burst into loud laughter, and then laid the package, which he held in his hands during this time, upon the table.



"Yes" he said "I called for Rose at the train and brought her home with me—because to-day happens to be my wife's birthday."

"Here she is," with a meaning glance to the mother-in-law, the dangerous personage, a rose-colored peach blow, which has been Jennie's desire for a long time."

The professor's domestic horizon was bright forever after.

## Joke on Jones.

Some years ago Prof. Wm. T. Harris read a paper on Psychological Inquiry before an N. E. A. meeting, which was to be discussed by Supt. Jones, then of Indianapolis but now of Cleveland. The latter has always been noted for his rather youthful appearance and Prof. Harris who was kindly disposed towards him wanted to succeed well in his task. He consequently allowed Jones to examine the paper in advance to its reading and also left a few vulnerable spots which could be neatly attacked.

When the trying moment had arrived the meeting was packed to suffocation. An elderly pedagogue from Rhode Island named Barringer occupied a front seat and was evidently much delighted with Prof. Harris's address. When the small and youthful figure of Jones appeared upon the platform a look of disgust overcame Barringer's face and he began to nestle himself into an attitude indicating a comfortable snooze.

Jones dug into his subject in such a vigorous and brilliant manner as to disturb the old pedagogue and when he observed how the little schoolmaster pitched into the great Harris he became wide awake again. Jones had done himself proud and at the close of his discussion left the platform amid stormy applause.

Old man Barringer's turn now came. He got up, warmly embraced Jones, and said in a loud voice: "My boy, how old are you?"

Little Tommy: Pop, what's the difference between a schoolmaster and an educator.

Tommy's Pop: Well, when he has a job he's a schoolmaster and when he's looking for one he's an educator.

"I vant mein poy to learn anodder langvidge," said Mr. Speiglebaum to the professor.

"Very well, sir. What language will he take—French, Spanish, Russian, Italian, Greek?"

"Vich vos de sheepest?"

The horse is a very useful animal," wrote Johnny in his composition, "but if I can't have my sossiges made of pigs meet I dont want no sossiges."

Father (who has been helping a son in his school-work): What did the teacher remark when you showed him the translation?

Johannes: He said I was getting more stupid every day.

"Say, Jack, what is the capital of Switzerland?"

Jack (who has just returned from abroad): Why, the money they got from travelers, of course.

Boy: "Teacher, I wish you would make that girl quit winking at me."

Teacher: "Why don't you look somewhere else?"

Boy: "Because if I do, she'll wink at some other boy."

Teacher: Johnny, can you tell us the difference between caution and cowardice?

Johnny: Yessum. When you're scart to go out ou a boat an' stay home for fear it'll sink, and the boat comes in all right, it's cowardice.

"Well?"

"And if you're scart and stay home and the boat does sink, then it's caution."

A teacher having requested each of her class of small boys to bring in three items of information about the Hudson river that they could prove to be facts received from a bright seven-year-old the following: "I have lived neer it, I have saled over it, I have fallun into it. Facks."



## After the School Board Election.

Politician: What was the first thing Mrs. Newman did after she was elected to the school board?  
Citizen: Sent her husband to the cooking school.

## He Did It.

"One thing must be admitted in favor of our sex," announced the female member of the School Board to her husband, "in the time of need we are always strong. Can you mention the name of a single woman who has lost her head in the time of danger?"  
"Why, there was the lovely Marie Antoinette, my dear," suggested her husband mildly.

## School Board Election.

The husband: "Well, what ticket did you vote, Maria?"

The wife: "The nonpartisan ticket."

The husband: "H'm! Did you have any particular reform or public improvement in view in voting that ticket?"

The wife: "Just hear the man! As if I would mix myself up in your dirty politics. I voted the nonpartisan ticket because it has nicer sound than either democrat or republican."

## GERMAN SPANISH AND FRENCH HUMOR.

Lehrerin: „Wie viele Arten von Boesie unterscheiden wir?“

Bachsch (nach längerem Bedenken): „Dreierlei!“

Lehrerin: „Nennen Sie mir diese!“

Bachsch: „Die lyrische Boesie, die dramatische...!“

Lehrerin: „Ra—und die epi...“

Bachsch: „Die epidemische!“

LOCATION ET NOURRITURE D'UN CHAT.—Dans un hôtel, un voyageur va se plaindre au propriétaire que les souris dansent dans sa chambre.

L'hôtelier fait mettre dans la chambre le chat de la maison.

Deux jours après, le voyageur n'est pas peu surpris de trouver sur sa note: "Location d'un chat: fr. 2.50."

Sans se déconcerter, il écrit au dessous: "A déduire, pour avoir nourri le dit chat: fr. 3.00." Et il fait bravement la soustraction au nez de l'hôtelier.—La Famille.

Lehrer: "Sage mir, Karlchen, wer hat denn die schönen Wälder, Felder und Wiesen erschaffen?"

Schüler: „Das weiß ich nicht, Herr Lehrer, wir sind ja erst seit zwei Monaten hier im Orte.“

EN EL TEATRO.—"Ve usted este tenor que canta de un modo tan admirable? Pues es sordo como un poste."

"Y siendo sordo, cómo conoce cuando ha concluido de cantar?"

"El director le hace una seña."—El Diluvio.

Lehrer: „Ein Hauptwort kann man also nicht steigern.“

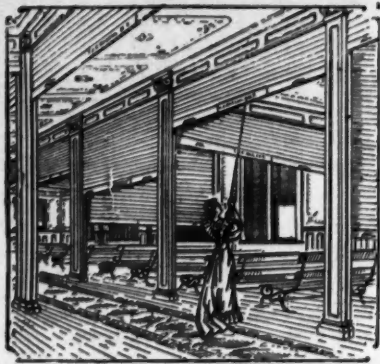
Schüler (Hausbesizersohn): „Mein Vater sagte es mir doch!“

Lehrer: „Hat er Dir auch ein Beispiel genannt?“

Schüler: „Ja: Die Miether!“



# WILSON'S ROLLING PARTITIONS.



ROLLING PARTITION

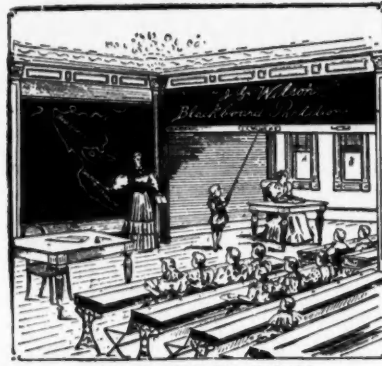
For dividing Class Rooms.

**SOUND PROOF  
AIR TIGHT.**

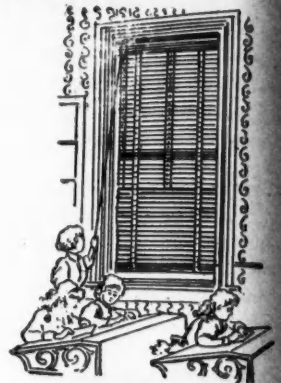
In Various Woods.

**Made also with  
BLACKBOARD  
SURFACE.**

These partitions are a marvelous convenience, easily operated, very durable, and do not get out of order.



WITH BLACKBOARD SURFACE.



VENETIAN BLINDS

In Various Kinds of Wood

**ALSO WOOD BLOCK FLOORS.  
THE STANDARD FLOOR FOR SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT EUROPE.**

Composed of Wood Blocks, cemented and keyed to concrete foundation, forming a solid and immovable structure, through which no dampness or foul air can penetrate and no disease germs or filth can be secreted. Fire-resisting, noiseless and warm to the feet. Can be laid in a variety of patterns in different kinds of wood. Very handsome in appearance and everlasting.

**JAS. GODFREY WILSON, Patentee and Manufacturer, 74 West 23d St., New York.**

## BOOK REVIEWS.

BY W. H. BEACH.

**SELECTIONS FROM P. K. ROSEGGER'S WALDHEIMAT.** With Introduction and Explanatory Notes. By Laurence Fossler, A. M. Ginn & Co. Price 55c.

This book is a production, for which the editor feels there is a growing demand. In the linguistic strife German ever plays an important role. This volume introduces the reader to Rosegger's works, which possess not only the charm and power of their author, but also his strength and skill in diction. The reader becomes a student of human nature, since the author's art is directed simply and solely to the portrayal and interpretation of the life about him; the author is a lover of nature and as a poet leads the reader into the inner core of life. Something useful and necessary is the supplement which offers valuable hints and suggestions to the tyro in the German Language. It is heartily recommended to all students and teachers of the German language. F. L.

**DESCRIPTIVE ECONOMICS.** An Introduction to "Economic Science" for use in Academies, High and Normal Schools, and Business Colleges. Publishers, Williams and Rogers, Rochester, N. Y. Price \$1.

The present age tends to that which is practical and concrete in all branches of knowledge. Economics treats of the "arts of life" and should be considered as the *art of arts*, since its aim is the solution of the great problems of life. Educators feel that there ought to be a wider diffusion of economics in the common and high schools, academies and business colleges by means other than the use of a text-book prepared upon a purely theoretical basis. Descriptive economics is a natural pathway that leads to economic science. This book seems to meet the most urgent demands of all educators—being a practical and teachable book on political economy. It is sufficiently exhaustive to meet present demands, and its scope is universal—embracing economics of the family, villages, city, nation, and international economics.

The treatment of the subject is natural and the arrangement is scientific and practical. The language is clear and simple, and the book will be found interesting to the general reader as well as to the student of economics.

**THE EVOLUTION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.** By George H. Martin, A. M., Supervisor of Public Schools, Boston. D. Appleton & Co. Price \$1.50.

Vol. XXIX. in the International Education series. Edited by Com. W. T. Harris. People engaging in a new enterprise generally seek to follow some model, possibly improving on the model. As the editor states in his preface, Massachusetts is recognized as the pioneer in educational work in this country, and has developed a system that is looked to by all the states. Some of the other states may possibly have excelled in some directions. The development of this system has required time. Even in the origin of the system the people of Massachusetts obtained their ideas from the old countries, in some of which there was something like a compulsory system. The author has, in a series of six lectures here published in book form, traced this development from early legislation and the schools before the revolution, down to the modern school. The story is full of interest to all teachers and is here told in an entertaining way. Some of the features of the old schools with "boarding round," and the physical requirements in the teacher, are more interesting in the narration than they were, probably, in experience. The old primer, containing the Westminster shorter catechism, completes condensing some Bible story, and no pictures intended to impress upon children some important lesson, is to-day a thing of great historical interest. The gradual additions of studies, the slow growth of the graded school system, the giving to girls the same chances as had been given to boys—all these things required time. Prejudices of conservative people had to be overcome before free schools could be established. Strong men, men of character, learning and discretion, devoted their energies to the improvement of the educational system. The story of their labors is instructive as well as interesting. This is not claimed to be a history of education in Massachusetts, only

a historical sketch of the development of the system. The author is interested in his subject, and intimates that at some future time he may prepare a more complete work on the subject.

**DOCTOR JUDAS.** A Portrayal of the opium habit. By William R. Cobbe. S. C. Griggs & Co. 320 pp., cloth. \$1.50.

"Opium is the Judas of drugs; it kisses and then betrays." The author is a well known Chicago journalist, and wields a ready pen. He relates some of his early experiences in intensely active work that brought his system into an excited condition. Here relief was sought in the use of morphine. The use became a habit that lasted for nine years. He describes with a vividness that is almost painful, his experience, until by an effort of the will he freed himself from the habit. The book is interesting as a study of the physical and mental effects of such a habit. The author criticises some of De Quincey's statements in his "Confessions of an Opium-Eater." The mechanical part of the book has been well done.

**AMERICAN MENTAL ARITHMETIC.** By M. S. Bailey, A. M., Professor of Mathematics, Kansas State Normal School. 160 pp. American Book Company. Price 35 cents.

Principles are concisely stated and illustrated. Percentage is taught without rules or formulas. The object of the book is to develop original, independent thinking. Practical exercises, "At the Lumber Yard," "At the Carpet Store," etc., are intended to make the learner familiar with methods in daily use. The precedence of signs is given, and in mensuration the simple principles of geometry. The metric system is presented, and some other features not usually found in mental arithmetics.

**INTRODUCTION TO QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.** A Laboratory Manual, by Inductive Method. Delos Fall, M. S. V. J. Teft, Albion, Mich.

It is very unfortunate that this author inscribed "Inductive Method" on his title page. Had he not done so, one would have taken the book for what it is—a most helpful accumulation of elementary chemical facts, with lists of review questions on general text-book matter. The first half of the book may be studied as profitably without ever entering a laboratory. We cannot understand why such manuals devote several pages to a description of the oft-repeated appointments of a good laboratory—something with which the student has nothing whatever to do. Mr. Fall finally comes to the subject of qualitative analysis and no student can fail to gain much chemical knowledge, together with a very considerable amount of scientific mental training, by following the author's lead. "The care of platinum vessels" is a happy insertion that will save to some laboratories many times the cost of this manual. G. B. B.

**OTTO'S INSPIRATION.** By Mary H. Ford. S. C. Griggs & Co., Chicago.

This is a story of a little German boy blessed with an unusual talent for music, who began life as a "tramp fiddler" and became one of the greatest violinists of the world.

Left an orphan at the age of ten, he came into possession of his father's violin, a genuine Stradivarius. Learning that friends of his father intended bringing him before the public as an Infant Prodigy, Otto took his dog and wandered into the country where he found a home in which he remained a number of years. While there he was brought to the notice of a lady of wealth, who gave him a thorough musical education. The ruling power of his life, morally and musically, was an inspiration he called his "Angel."

The story is simply and pleasantly told, and besides the boy's life, gives sketches of street, as well as society life in New York. Enough of romance is interwoven to add interest to the book. H. I. L.

**THE DESERTED VILLAGE,** and other poems. Oliver Goldsmith.

**THE OLD MANSE** and a Few Mosses. Nathaniel Hawthorne. A SELECTION FROM CHILD LIFE IN POETRY. Edited by J. G. Whittier.

A SELECTION FROM CHILD LIFE IN PROSE. Edited by J. G. Whittier.

L'ALLEGRO, and Other Poems. John Milton. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Paper, 15 cents.

Numbers 68 to 72 in the Riverside Literature series, of nearly 100 pages each. They contain biographical sketches,

introductions and notes, the best of literature in very convenient form. S. M. B.

**AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF SOCIETY.** By Albion W. Small, Ph. D., and George E. Vincent. American Book Company.

The rapid industrial development of this country during the last twenty years, and the industrial disturbances, in a measure, consequent thereon, which have, from time to time, deranged or largely paralyzed business, have turned attention sharply to our social structure, and set the leaders of thought to studying and discussing the subject with an earnestness that promises a wider intelligence and practical reform in the future. The questions presented are the same in substance that have agitated the seers of all the countries from the time of Plato to the present; but they have assumed new forms, and are more emphatically demanding answer. Leading educators have taken up this social problem, and sociology has found a prominent place in the curriculum of colleges and universities, and there is a rapidly growing and deeply thoughtful literature devoted to the solution of the questions involved.

This book is an effort to present in a systematic form the facts and principles that are included in the study of this most important subject, and thus provide a text-book for those who desire to make it the theme of investigation and study. The subject has not yet assumed the form of an exact science, but it is possible to present it in such a way that its consideration will be greatly simplified and facilitated. The authors of this volume, while recognizing the difficulties that beset them, have accomplished their task with a system and fullness that at once proclaim their industry and their intelligent grasp of the whole matter. The book is divided into chapters and these into sections, with marginal index, so that any particular division or subdivision can be readily found. The work deserves and will, doubtless, receive a cordial welcome from teachers and students seeking a guide on this prolific theme.

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